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LITERATURE

Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Working of the Law relating to Letters Patent for Inventions. Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. (Eyre & Spottiswoode.)

THE announcement made in the Queen's Speech, that a Bill is to be introduced by the Government for amending the law of Patents, has been followed up by the distribution, among members of both Houses, of the Report of the recent Commission on Inventions. As the Government measure will be founded mainly upon the recommendations of the Royal Commission, this Report, at the present moment, is extremely interesting, and our readers will be glad to have early knowledge of its contents. This we shall give, as nearly as may be practicable, in the very language of Lord Stanley and his fellow-reporters.

The attention of the Commissioners was, at the outset, directed to the consideration of those defects in the working of the system which, since the amendment of the law in the year 1852, had become generally felt. Of these, the most important were the protracted litigation and consequent expense which, in almost every case, result from the present mode of trying questions of patent rights. Two instances were stated in evidence in which the law expenses of plaintiff and defendant together amounted to 26,000*l.* and to 15,000*l.* respectively. The course of litigation began, in the former case, in 1857, and may at the present moment be still further protracted; in the latter it lasted from the year 1842 until 1855. Indeed, since the Commission met, a single case has occupied the attention of the Court of one of the Vice Chancellors for upwards of thirty days.

The multiplicity of patents, arising from the facility and diminished cost of obtaining them, has been another serious cause of complaint against the present law. It appears from the tables compiled at the Great Seal Patent Office, that the average number of provisional protections annually granted is now about 3,000, while the patents sealed exceed 2,000; and that an increase on this average may be expected. The evil arising from this multiplicity of monopolies is of a twofold nature. In the first place, that of the existence of a number of patents for alleged inventions of a trivial character; in the second place, that of the granting of patents for inventions which are either old or practically useless, and are employed by the patentees only to embarrass rival manufacturers.

On the other hand, is the opinion that the cost of obtaining letters patent, together with the fees payable on their continuance up to the full term of fourteen years, although reduced to 175*l.*, payable by instalments, of which the first does not exceed 25*l.*, is still so high as to be an insuperable bar to the poor inventor in obtaining the protection to which he is fairly entitled.

Again, it is claimed by inventors on the ground of public policy, that the tax imposed on the granting of patents, and thereby indirectly, on inventors, should be no more than sufficient to cover the expenses of the Great Seal Patent Office, and of the necessary libraries and museums connected with it. At the present date, it appears that the accumulation of surplus fees (after allowing for all such expenses), since the year 1852, amounts to more than 200,000*l.*, and that for future years, the annual surplus upon the present footing may be estimated at 40,000*l.*

In considering the evidence laid before them, the Commissioners arranged it under the following heads:—I. A statement of the successive stages of procedure in applying for the grant of letters patent; of the fees payable at each stage, and during the continuance of the term of fourteen years; and of the procedure on disclaimers, memoranda of alterations, confirmations, and prolongations. II. Opinions on the question whether it is or not expedient that patents should be easily and cheaply granted. III. Objections to the present mode of trying cases of patent rights, and alterations which may be suggested. IV. The various opinions on the working of the system, as regards disclaimers, memoranda of alterations, confirmations, and prolongations, and on the propriety of granting patents to importers of foreign inventions, and to foreign inventors.

On the question whether patents should be made easy or difficult to obtain, there is a marked diversity of opinion; some witnesses denying, others affirming the existence of public inconvenience from an indefinite multiplication of these temporary monopolies.

The majority of witnesses affirm the existence of practical inconvenience from the multiplicity of patents. It is clear that patents are granted for matters which can hardly be considered as coming within the definition in the statute of monopolies of "a new manufacture." It is in evidence that the existence of these monopolies embarrasses the trade of a considerable class of persons, artisans, small tradesmen, and others, who cannot afford to face the expense of litigation, however weak the case against them may seem to be; and a still stronger case is made out as to the existence of what may be called obstructive patents, and as to the inconvenience caused thereby to manufacturers directly, and through them to the public.

From a paper drawn up by the Superintendent of Specifications, it appears that upon examining into the first hundred applications for patents in each of the years 1855, 1858, 1862, the results were, in his opinion, that in 1855, twenty-six were manifestly bad for want of novelty, and six more partly so; in 1858, fourteen manifestly old, and one partly so; in 1862, seven were old, and one would probably turn out to be so. An instance, illustrating the mode in which these patents are used, is given in evidence, where royalties had been demanded, and in most cases obtained, by the patentee of a machine, which turned out upon investigation to be identical with one which nineteen years before had been well known.

Special attention is drawn to the evidence given by the First Lord of the Admiralty, and by various witnesses on behalf of the War Department, showing the embarrassment which has been caused to the naval and military services by the multitude of patents taken out for inventions in use in those departments. The Commissioners express a strong opinion that it is necessary for the public service that for the future no patent should be granted without the insertion of a proviso allowing to the Crown the unrestricted use of the invention therein patented, the compensation for such use to be fixed by the Treasury. While the opinion of the Commissioners was being printed, the recent judgment in the case of *Feather against the Queen* decided this point in favour of the Crown.

Objection is taken by one class of witnesses, to the payments of 50*l.* and 100*l.* on the renewal of the patent at the end of the third and seventh years respectively. It is alleged that the periods of payment are fixed too early in the duration of the monopoly; that

many valuable patents have, even in their seventh year, failed to become profitable from the difficulty of inducing manufacturers to adopt new methods of working, and that in such cases the patentee is either unable to procure the necessary sum or is unwilling to risk the additional expense, and therefore allows his patent to drop; that thus the system inflicts a hardship on the inventor, and retards the general progress of improvement.

Among the engineering and manufacturing class there seems to be some inclination to urge the adoption of a system of annual payments, on the ground that the burden would be more equally distributed over the whole period of the patent, and that the rich and the poor inventor would thereby be brought upon more equal terms, while there would be a constant tendency on the part of patentees to allow an unremunerative patent to drop at once. The propriety of a system of annual payments is, however, denied by the greater number of those who have given evidence. Whatever be the scale of payment adopted, a very general expression of opinion has been given that the price to be paid by inventors, in the aggregate, should not be more than sufficient to provide for the expenses of the Patent Office, Library and Museum; and that these should be maintained in the highest state of efficiency, so as to give inventors the utmost facility for ascertaining what was known in every branch of invention.

It is urged in opposition to any further course of preliminary examination than that which is at present pursued, first, that the principle of our law requires the inventor himself to make such an examination, inasmuch as he takes out a patent at his own risk; and next, that it could not be conducted in a manner free from objection. That if it were *ex parte*, the interests of the public would be no better protected than they now are; if subject to opposition, the inventor would be deprived of the protection of secrecy, while he would in fact be subjected to a premature trial of his patent; and that such a trial, even if it resulted in his success, would be no protection to him.

That if the result of such an examination was to be final, the examining body would seldom undertake the responsibility of refusing a patent; if subject to appeal they would, on the hearing of that appeal, be placed in the position of defendants. That on the whole the result would be, increased expense and delay of the patentee, with no greater security either to him or to the public.

On the other hand, there is a very strong expression of opinion, and one not confined to any particular class of persons, in favour of some more strict preliminary examination.

It is proposed that such an examination be conducted by the members of a mixed board of examiners, consisting of one or more barristers, and a proportionate number of practical and scientific men; and that this board should, unless forming part of or acting in concert with some special tribunal to be appointed for the trial of patent cases, be assistant and subordinate to the law officers of the Crown, whose official duties in respect of patents should otherwise remain unaltered. That the result of this examination should be either a decision subject to one final appeal; or a certificate which, whether favourable or unfavourable, should be appended to the specification.

With respect to caveats, it is held, by a majority of witnesses, that the present system should remain unaltered, subject to such modifications in practice as might be required by the institution of preliminary investigation.

As to the propriety of making licences compulsory, or of requiring user within a given period, it is contended by some witnesses that patentees are, as a rule, willing to grant licences to work their inventions on reasonable terms. To do so is obviously their interest; and it may be assumed that men will generally follow their own interest.

Apart from the above considerations, the practical difficulties appear to be regarded as all but insuperable. No rule can be laid down for estimating the value of a patent, or the amount of charge which may be reasonably imposed on those using it. These will vary in every instance; and it is manifestly futile to require the inventor to grant a licence when applied to, unless some provision be made for determining the price to be paid.

It appears to be generally felt, more especially by those who are immediately concerned in managing the litigation of patent rights, that some proceeding, more simple in form, and therefore more expeditious, should be adopted for the repeal of invalid patents. The most serious objection to the present mode of proceeding seems to be, that while a patentee, if he maintains his patent, will only get such costs as may be covered by the bond which is required from the petitioner against him, the petitioner, on the other hand, if he succeeds in his object of upsetting the patent, will get no costs.

As regards the issues to be tried, the Commissioners say that it has not been shown to their satisfaction that any alteration in the form of the proceedings for repeal would materially shorten them, or diminish the expenses of the trial.

The evidence shows an almost universal feeling of dissatisfaction with the present mode of trying questions of patent right, while there are many and various proposals for the constitution of a tribunal which should be more expeditious and less expensive. The principal fault of the system lies in this: that the jury by whom the case is tried, seldom possess even so much scientific knowledge as is necessary to enable them to understand the evidence. Advantage is constantly taken of this deficiency; first, in a subtle and vague drawing of specifications; again, by an artful generality in the form of framing the issues to be tried; lastly, on the trial, by the introduction of a cloud of scientific evidence, to perplex rather than to explain the true points at issue. It is possible that these difficulties might to some extent be obviated, as has been suggested to us, by requiring a greater strictness in drawing the specification and claim of the patentee, or by a more perfect scheme for settling, in the presence of the Judge, the issues to be tried; but it is almost without exception admitted that a radical remedy is only to be found in reforming the constitution of the tribunal itself.

The main point in doubt is, whether this reform should go to the extent of constituting a special Court for the trial of patent cases, or whether the existing jurisdictions of the Courts of Law and Equity should be maintained in a modified form. The objections to a special Court are various and strong. In the first place, the want of sufficient business to occupy its time fully. Secondly, that on trials of patent cases, questions are frequently arising which require an extended knowledge of other branches of the law; and that a Judge selected for his special acquaintance with mechanical and scientific topics, and one who, in his judicial capacity, was principally engaged in the consideration of such questions, would not be so competent to deal with the whole subject-matter of the case as one by whom all branches

of our law were in turn handled. Thirdly, that such a constitution of the Court would render it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to secure an effectual appeal. The Commissioners do not think that these views (with the exception, perhaps, of the first) have been met by arguments of equal weight; and assuming, therefore, that it would not be advantageous to constitute a special Patent Court, they proceed to consider what has been proposed in aid of the existing jurisdictions.

The general proposal is, that the Judge, on trial of a patent case, should either be aided by scientific assessors, or that the case should be tried by a jury composed of from five to seven scientific persons. The latter plan does not appear to be wholly satisfactory, owing to the difficulty there would always be in getting a sufficient number of scientific men to compose a jury competent and unbiased.

The conclusion which the Commissioners have drawn from the evidence is, that a Court might be satisfactorily formed on the former plan, taking as a general model of its constitution the Court of Admiralty, assisted by the Trinity Brethren. It is difficult accurately to estimate the weight of evidence as to whether those assessors should act judicially, or merely by way of instruction and advice to the Judge; but the balance seems rather to incline to the latter view, which would place them in a very similar position to that of the assessors to the Court of Admiralty.

It seems to be generally thought that the assistance of an ordinary jury in patent cases is not requisite: there is, however, a certain amount of unwillingness to give up that which is considered by many the safest form of tribunal for the weighing of facts and probabilities; it has, therefore, been suggested that the employment of a jury might be at the joint request of the parties or at the discretion of the Judge. It appears that no difficulty would be found in setting apart a Court for the trial of patent cases, and in providing for the attendance in rotation of one of the Judges of the Courts of Law and Equity.

It has long been the practice, founded on judicial decision, to consider that the use or publication of an invention abroad did not deprive that invention of the character of "a new manufacture within this realm."

The general opinion seems to be in favour of granting patents to foreigners or to their agents or nominees in this country. By some persons it is proposed to limit the grant to nations of those countries whose governments allow the reciprocal privilege to British subjects; and further, to impose as a condition that the invention be worked or licences granted for working it in this country, following the system which prevails generally on the continent.

As to confirmations, with a single exception, and that merely as a statement of opinion, unsupported by argument, no suggestions were made with a view to the alteration of the present system. Only seven applications have been made for confirmation of a patent under 5 & 6 Will. 4. c. 83. s. 2, and only one of such applications has been acceded to. The Commissioners see no reason for retaining a power of which no practical use is made.

The witnesses, with one exception, do not complain of the existence of prolongations; this may, however, be accounted for by their extreme rarity. A careful consideration of the evidence given by the clerk to the Privy Council leads to the opinion that prolongations should not be in future granted. The power of granting them is in its nature arbitrary, and it does not seem just that the public should be excluded for a term of years from the use of an invention,

which in the ordinary course of law would otherwise become public, simply because the inventor has reaped from it a smaller profit (possibly through his own want of business habits) than he thought himself entitled to expect. The uncertainty, moreover, whether an application for prolongation will or will not be granted is an evil to all parties concerned.

It has been stated—as to disclaimers and memoranda of alterations—that the former of these proceedings sometimes results in the enlargement of the patentee's rights, and that more strictness ought therefore to be exercised in allowing them. With respect to memoranda of alterations, no serious objection is taken to a continuance of the present system. It is indeed suggested that, following the French law, patents of addition should be allowed. No reasons, however, are given in support of this view.

Such is the general result of the evidence, and the conclusions to which the Commissioners have come after considering it. Having considered the evidence, Lord Stanley and his fellow Commissioners say:—

1. The Commissioners do not find that the present cost of obtaining letters patent is excessive, or the method of payment inconvenient; they do not therefore recommend any alteration of the present system on those points; but they think that patent fees should not be made to contribute to the general expenditure of the state until every reasonable requirement of the Patent Office has been satisfied.

2. They are unable to recommend a preliminary investigation into the merits of the invention for which the patent is claimed; but they advise that a careful inquiry be instituted under the direction of the law officers of the Crown as to whether there has been any previous documentary publication of the invention, either by grant of letters patent, or otherwise; and if such publication have taken place, that the patent shall be refused. No evidence other than such documentary evidence should be admissible, and the reasons for the refusal to grant the patent should be certified by the law officers; an appeal from their decision should lie to the Lord Chancellor.

3. The Commissioners are of opinion that the present mode of trying the validity of patents is not conducted in a satisfactory manner. That such trials ought to take place before a Judge sitting with the aid of scientific assessors, but without a jury, unless at the desire of both parties to the suit or action. That such assessors ought to be selected by the Judge in each case, and the remuneration to be paid them be included in the costs of the suit or action, and provided for in such manner as the Judge shall direct. That no special Judge be appointed for the trial of patent cases, but that the Judges of Law and Equity be empowered to make rules by which one Court should sit for trial of patent cases exclusively. That on such trial the Judge, if sitting without a jury, decide questions of fact as well as of law.

4. That the granting of licences to use patented inventions ought not to be made compulsory.

5. That patents ought not to be granted to importers of foreign inventions.

6. That in no case ought the term for which a patent is granted, to be extended beyond the original period of fourteen years.

7. That in all patents hereafter to be granted a proviso shall be inserted to the effect that the Crown shall have the power to use any invention therein patented without previous licence or consent of the patentee, subject to payment of a sum to be fixed by the Treasury.

8. While, in the judgment of the Commissioners, these changes will do something to mitigate the inconveniences now generally complained of by the public as incident to the working of the patent law, it is their opinion that such inconveniences cannot be wholly removed. They are, in their belief, inherent in the nature of a patent law, and must be considered as the price which the public consents to pay for the existence of such a law.

The Report is signed by Lord Stanley, Lord Overstone, Sir W. Erle, Sir W. P. Wood, Sir Hugh Cairns, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Grove, Mr. W. E. Forster, and Mr. Fairbairn. The last gentleman objects to the recommendation against prolongations; and a separate Report is published by Mr. Hindmarch, suggesting various other amendments, especially as to the mode of trying patent rights.

A Collection of the Judgments of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in Ecclesiastical Cases relating to Doctrine and Discipline. With a Preface by the Lord Bishop of London, and an Historical Introduction. Edited (under the direction of the Lord Bishop of London) by the Hon. George C. Brodrick and the Rev. William H. Fremantle. (Murray.)

MANY of the arguments which are used against the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as a Court of final appeal in ecclesiastical cases appear to us to be founded in a very obvious misapprehension of the duties which such a Court has to perform. It is argued that, since the questions decided by them are questions of religious doctrine, therefore the judges should be professional theologians, and that any other person is necessarily unfit to form a judicial opinion on matters of this nature.

The answer is so obvious that, if we were not daily reminded of the prevalence of this error, we should think it impertinent to express it. The questions of doctrine which come before the Court are not questions whether the doctrine is true or false, but whether the person who holds this doctrine has, by so doing, contravened the Articles and formularies which he has sworn to observe. This is a simple question of construction, such as might arise on an Act of Parliament, a deed, or a will. The judges have to ascertain from the words which the accused has used what he means, which is often by no means an easy task; they then have to ascertain, by examining the article against which he is said to have offended, what that means, which is often a matter of yet greater difficulty; and having done this, they must decide whether the doctrine expressed by the accused party is beyond that somewhat broad "line of deviation" which has been wisely allowed by our formularies. Is a clergyman the most likely person to form a fair opinion on a question such as this? Is it not generally true that each section of the clergy reads in the Articles and formularies of the Church of England a declaration of the opinions held by his own party, and a denial of those distinctive doctrines which are held by any party materially differing from his own?

It is true, we think, that the learning of the theologian may be of great assistance to the lawyer in forming his judgment on these matters; and accordingly three ecclesiastics are upon the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and one of them must sit in every case where a question of violation of discipline or a matter of doctrine has to be decided.

If lawyers, with the assistance of theologians, are fit persons to be judges in these matters, it would not be easy to select a stronger Court

than that which the Committee now presents. Besides the Lord President and three former Presidents, we have the present Chancellor, four retired Chancellors, the two Lords Justices of Appeals in Chancery, the Master of the Rolls, the Chief Justices of the Courts of Queen's Bench and Common Pleas, the Chief Baron, the Judge of the Court of Probate and Divorce, the Judge of the Admiralty Court, a retired Vice-Chancellor, and two retired Judges, with Lord Kingsdown and Sir Edmund Ryan. The ecclesiastical members of the Committee are the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the Bishop of London.

It is clear that no objection can be urged against this Committee on the ground that the persons above mentioned are not duly qualified to fill the judicial office. The present arrangement is, no doubt, open to exception on some other point. Thus the lay members of the committee consist of twenty-two persons, and of these some four or five are usually selected to hear an appeal, three being a quorum. The persons selected receive a summons from the Lord President, acting on behalf of the Queen. The selection is not, we believe, made according to any *rota*, and it is not clear that it is done according to any principle whatever. Such a course is not only liable to objection, as it causes the Court to consist of different Judges in every case, and even in the same case, where (as frequently occurs) it is brought before the Judicial Committee on different occasions, but, having regard to the political bearing of many of these cases, it is open to grave censure, inasmuch as the judges to try the case are selected by one who cannot but feel a strong interest in their decision. Take, for instance, the case of Mr. Gorham, where the question of institution to one of the Lord Chancellor's livings was involved. What could be more unsatisfactory than that the Court to try this question should be selected by one of Her Majesty's Ministers? A minor objection, though one of some practical importance, is, that many of the members of the Judicial Committee are Judges, whose whole time is required for the business of the several Courts in which they preside. Great inconvenience and expense are suffered by the suitors when they are selected to sit at the Privy Council.

It is well worthy of consideration whether these inconveniences and anomalies cannot be obviated. This is not, however, the object of the present agitation for the alteration of the Court of Appeal in ecclesiastical matters. The real struggle is to obtain for the clergy the whole power in deciding matters of this nature; and he must, we think, observe very imperfectly the current of ecclesiastical doings in this day who does not detect in this movement a part of a considered plan to secure to the Bishops of our National Church, if not the same power as is exercised by the Pope in the Roman Catholic Church, at least a far greater power than has ever been lawfully exercised by any ecclesiastic since Henry the Eighth displaced the power of the Pope in England. With such a question in agitation, it is of no slight importance that the Bishop of London should come forward to express his opinion in favour of the Court as at present constituted. The object of the work before us, as stated in the Preface, is not to settle the various questions in dispute, but to seek to supply information indispensable for their settlement. The Bishop, indeed, while he disclaims any wish to conceal in what direction his own feelings tend, does not expressly state the conclusions at which he has arrived. He desires to reserve his final opinion in order that if any definite proposal for the alteration of the Court be brought before the

legislature, he may be able to examine it on its own merits impartially and unpledged.

It is not difficult, however, to perceive what the Bishop of London's opinion is. He considers that the present Court, consisting in effect of lawyers, exercising their functions with the assistance of the Bishops, affords the best security for such a union of legal authority with theological learning as can be obtained.

The historical sketch which follows the Preface shows that we cannot improve the present arrangement by reverting to any that has preceded it. The defects of the Court of Delegates, which was established as the ultimate Court of Appeal in ecclesiastical cases by the statute of the 25th Henry the Eighth, and which existed until the year 1832, were so glaring, and were so thoroughly exposed by the Report of the Commission and by Lord Brougham, that any return to the ancient system is out of the question.

But though our history affords no direct information for the improvement of the Court, it gives us many warnings against any alteration in the direction which is desired by the ecclesiastical party.

There can be no doubt that the present arrangement may well be improved. There is now, it is believed, the greatest difficulty found in forming a Court, and this is only done by taking some of our Judges from their own Courts, much to the detriment of the suitors, to say nothing of the inconvenience suffered by the gentlemen practising in those Courts. Again, uniformity of decision, which is a matter of the utmost importance, cannot be expected from a Court of Appeal which is in every case formed of different Judges. The defects in the present system to which we have adverted, together with the fact that the business which is now brought before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is sufficient to occupy a permanent Court, seem to show that the right course is to appoint salaried Judges for these duties in place of the present Committee.

If this be not done, let things remain as they are. We may say, without any disrespect to the bishops in their ecclesiastical characters, that we believe them to be the least capable of all men to exercise judicial functions—a belief that has certainly not been shaken by a perusal of the proceedings in the Upper House of Convocation. Let us not, even at their own request, place them in a position for which they are unfit.

The cases published in this volume afford the reader an opportunity of forming an opinion upon that which is practically the most important question, namely, whether the Court, as at present constituted, does its work well. We think that the unprejudiced reader will come to the conclusion that it *does* work well. Doctrinal partisans will consider that it is too liberal in its views, but the cause of this may be found, not in any weakness of the Court, but in the existence of that broad "line of deviation" to which we have before referred.

A Lady's Walk in the South of France in 1863.
By Mary Eyre. (Bentley.)

It is time to call attention to a feature in our travelling literature which, when it is important, becomes unpleasant,—the perpetual reference to prices and economies. A lady's talk must depress rather than cheer her tea-party, when it perpetually runs on "save-alls," candle-ends,—on soup made for nothing out of crusts, and the minimum for which washing can be done or a bag carried to a coach-office. We write not without some experience of having travelled on narrow fortunes, and with as

eager a resolution to protest against exorbitant imposition as ever entered an hotel, or discussed the price of meat, clothes, and fire; but having thus journeyed, we must feel how mean and wearisome (be it ever so natural) is the harping on such topics, how sorely calculated to engender wrong views of those among whom the tourist is thrown, and to bar him from anything like freedom or pleasure in his intercourse with man and nature. The eye that is for ever fixed on purse and placket, must become contracted in its orbit of enjoyment. Every notion of holiday must perish when the spectre of Penury rises up at every moment. In youth, every one can laugh at the wet garment, and the hat blown off by the wind. In maturity, dry clothing acquires a value, and rheumatism in a strange bed may be owned to be as bad a plague as any that beset the resident in the stillest, smallest village at home, where it was formerly not thought a cruel incarceration to abide, since there the resident was not a stranger and a pilgrim, but, except under most exceptional circumstances, must have won some kind care and sympathy. One word more: Unrest and Poverty are as discordant as "crabbed Age and Youth." They cannot live together without perpetual antagonism.

A few years ago, a lady boasted that she had seen Germany to perfection, by having lived in bores' houses, and walked from town to town. Miss Eyre seems to have gone forth to study the Pyrenees in a fashion little less self-denying,—with a resolute intention to make a book. The result will be painful, even to those whom the story interests. Her confession of insufficient means; her necessity of wearing damp clothing, owing to a scanty provision of changes of raiment; her adjustment of proper nourishment in pittance; her painful attempt to keep lodging expenses down to the most reduced figure possible, are so perpetually brought before us, that we think less of Pyrenean sunsets, and the wild flowers discoursed on—nay, or even the legends cleverly culled from local books by her—than of these petty grinding discomforts to be endured by a sad, solitary woman. No wonder that she makes a vital question of half-a-franc. No wonder that she is earnest and mournful on the dirt and bad cookery of her abiding places. But when she puts herself forth as a type, by which lonely females may be encouraged to try less monotonous expedients in the cause of independence than that of governing, our sympathies part from her, as they parted from Ida Pfeiffer. Does it never occur to these wanderers that they *must* be sources of mistrust, anxiety, and trouble to those they come amongst? Do they never picture to themselves what would be the lot of the French or German spinster who chose to roam about England, living at peasant prices? And yet these persons are, as a body, more hugarious as to inconveniences than the most silken of ladies, who, making the grand tour, in a grand style, has some right to expect that a grand scale of payment should insure grand living. The painful and paining specimens of the class whom every tourist must have encountered rise in a long and dismal line to recollection. It may be hard, but the world cannot be arranged so as to award those whose object is to enjoy pleasures and privileges beyond their means either a fair construction or a favourable reception.

We have no wish, after having propounded a plain argument, to carry illustration further. There is more in Miss Eyre's book than the never-ending struggle to make both ends meet, the details of which she has bewildered herself into fancying may be of use to others of the sisterhood. There is more in it than

her recollections of perpetual attempts to get marvels of scrubbing and scouring effected among those to whom absence of soft-soap is no evil. There is more besides the pertinacious personality with which the names of titled persons are brought into her record. Therefore, having warned other "ladies" from adopting her philosophies, under circumstances akin to hers, we can fairly commend her book as a curiosity; and hope, that while it tempts no one to go forth "and do likewise," it may answer its writer's purpose, and help to pay her travelling expenses.

The Jerusalem Delivered of Torquato Tasso.
Translated into English Verse by John Kingston James, Knt., M.A. 2 vols. (Longman & Co.)

TASSO is not at first sight a difficult poet to translate, yet he is not an easy one to translate well. Ornate simplicity may be termed the leading quality of his style; or perhaps *lucidity* might express the sense better than *simplicity*. He is clear without any exceptional directness or severity of phrase; flowing and spirited, in equal balance; eloquent and cultivated in a high degree, rather than burning with passion, or fitful and intuitive in imagination; finished and decorated, more than splendid in innate majesty. He is rather a great literary artist poetizing with all the resources of a culminating literary period, than one of those poets of the diviner class to whom neither period nor culture can add much, but who are themselves the very types and standards of poetry—a Homer, Æschylus, Dante, Chaucer, Shakespeare. It is because we know what these and some few other men have done that we use the word "poetry" with a clear apprehension of its scope and meaning. For Tasso we should not claim a place quite so high above his fellow men as this; and it is proportionately less difficult to translate him. The several qualities which we have named as distinguishing his poems are singly not such as most severely tax a translator's powers; and yet the complex of the whole is arduous, especially when we add the important practical question of the metrical form. For this whole complex is one of singularly harmonious adjustment; the touch in each quality is masterly. Here is not a poet of sublime or Titanic faculties who is not perfect master of his materials, and whose inequality affords some colour for harshness, crudity, and intervals of bathos, in the translator: but, on the contrary, a perfect master of his materials who has set himself to produce a poem hardly in modern ages paralleled for its unity in variety, its sustained and many-shaded interest, its continuity of texture, and its wealth of literary resource. Among the writers of great poems Tasso is peculiarly felicitous, almost uniformly so: not the greatest or most unapproachable of qualities, and yet a very difficult one to translate up to. To be uniformly felicitous might be termed the last secret of the translator's art, though certainly not the highest one.

By what process can the rhyming translator of a voluminous rhymed poem succeed, or pretty nearly succeed, in being uniformly felicitous? There is nothing for it, we presume, but to be to a very considerable extent paraphrastic. If a translator, say of Tasso, allows himself this convenient and also perilous latitude, and if he is himself a poet of spirit and elegance, he may by great good luck produce a felicitous English poem capable of being pitted against the felicitous Italian one; capable by no means of being sorted with it, stanza by stanza, but of being perused by the English

reader with a kind and degree of pleasurable emotion not much unlike what the Italian reader feels. It is the great merit of Fairfax that he has on the whole done this with Tasso's 'Jerusalem.' The translator who thus acts is like a man who measures heights with his neighbour (if we omit from consideration the great question of originality). The translator who adheres to a more rigid, but less plastic, informing and vital kind of fidelity, is like a glove upon a hand: it fits perfectly; it is in nicely adjusted contact throughout—contact, but not comparison. There are no terms of comparison between the hand which throbs and moves, and the mere inert integument. Doubtless, in some poets the meaning is so great, the form so austere, the expression so intense, comprehensive, and perfect, that rigid fidelity, if not quite the highest method of translation, becomes a very high one; but Tasso is a poet of a different class, who wears his poetic robe looser, and in whom felicity is much more prominent, and more needful to be rendered in the translation, than intensity.

The reader will perhaps infer that, as we cite Fairfax as exemplifying the truer style of translation in its application to Tasso, so we intend the present translator, Sir J. Kingston James, to stand as an example of the false style. To some, but only a limited, extent, this is true. Sir Kingston James has aimed at much closer literalness than Fairfax—indeed, the two translators cannot be at all compared in that respect; and his aim has so far been crowned with a very considerable measure of success. But we think he has sacrificed too much to it. In the first place, he has sacrificed the system of rhyming. Tasso, we need hardly say, wrote octaves, having the same arrangement of rhymes as Byron's 'Don Juan,' or Keats's 'Isabella'—line 1 rhyming with 3 and 5, 2 with 4 and 6, 7 with 8. Thus each stanza has the same sort of completeness as a sonnet. We do not say that this is the best, or nearly the best, description of stanza for an epic: that is a point on which very different views may fairly be entertained. But no translator would, through mere preference, depart from his original in this regard; and Sir Kingston James does not disguise that his only object in making the departure was to secure fidelity to the poet's meaning. He substitutes "the elegiac metre of alternate rhyme, which Dryden considered the noblest in our language." Thus the only sequence of rhyme is between lines 1 and 3, and lines 2 and 4. A second quartet, of different rhymes, is printed as forming one octave stanza with the first; but this it obviously does not do. The essence of octave has evaporated in the process, and there is no reason for retaining the form. We think it clear either that each quartet should have been printed as a stanza complete in itself, or that the division into stanzas should have been disregarded altogether, and the pauses introduced merely to suit the sense. The latter, we have no doubt, would have been the better course, and would have given the translation, to the full, the only compensating advantage of form which it can derive from an avoidance of the original metre—the advantage, namely, of continuous flow, instead of a partial winding-up at each eighth line. Still better, we think, would it have been to use a stanza representing Tasso's much more closely, with little or no difficulty to the translator beyond that of the metrical form which has here been actually adopted. This middle course would have been a true octave, rhyming in lines 2, 4 and 6, and again in 7 and 8, but with no attempt at rhyme in 1, 3 and 5—a principle of construction familiar to all in English ballad and other metres.

A still more serious and very frequently recurring sacrifice is that of harmony, elegance and ease. Sir Kingston James translates with a very considerable—indeed, conspicuous—amount of literality; and doing so he must inevitably, in a rhymed version, fall into many harsh and odd transpositions, many platitudes, and many wrenchings of phrase—the more so that he is specially careful to preserve the force of what he terms “the dominant verse.” In this detail we think he is right. Tasso is a poet peculiarly addicted to the indulgence in dominant verses, *i.e.* verses notable for climax or emphasis; and to deprive him of these in a translation would be even a greater perversion of his style than that to which Sir Kingston James is driven—feebleness or imperfection in the neighbouring lines or rhymes. That these blemishes are not slight is attested by such instances of forced inversion as—

To hold the rein her hand no longer could.

Retire they don't, or foll, or parry—no.

Where she foreknew pass by the Christians must;

and by such rhymes as *were* with *desire*, *rid* with *divide*, *night* with *night*, *son* with *man*, *death* with *path*, and many others which we could cite in both categories.

Another fault with which we must charge the translator is a too frequent insensibility to the meanness and colloquial modernism of the phrases which he employs; we say “insensibility,” for to this we are inclined to ascribe it, rather than to a reluctant submission to the real exigencies of his task. It does not appear to strike the ear of Sir Kingston James that such phrases as the following are absolutely inadmissible in an epic and chivalric poem:—

When 'neath his flag was each Crusader seen
Armed, as the day to dart his beams begun;
And showed himself as smart as possible
To pious Godfred wheeling on the grass.

Since he had from reliable report
Heard Egypt's king was posted in the line
Of Gaza's walls.

Argante paused not o'er the corse, but still
Pushed on ahead with undiminished whet.

He would his high appreciation show
(Their rightful due) of that illustrious corps.

While round a hundred damsels, no less fair,
That smart attended, and our wants supplied.

He ceased: the clang of many a barbarous horn
To the camp's hearty, wild *huzzas* replied.

In a line with this blemish, though of minor importance, we may place the recklessness with which Sir Kingston James intermingles Italian, English and nondescript names. No doubt, no greater metrical difficulty besets a translator than when he has proper names to deal with; and the romantic tone of Tasso's poem allows him to indulge in great laxity as to the names which he introduces, all Italianized in form, and so the more unmanageable in translation. Argante and Armida, for instance, are obviously absurd names for a Circassian and a Syrian to bear, even in an Italian poem. Their absurdity becomes still more glaring when they are transferred unmodified into an English version; yet the only alternative would be to vamp up some comparatively Orientalized forms of the same names, and thereby lose one of those *primæ facie* and traditional aspects of the poem, in point of detail, without which Tasso scarcely looks like himself. Sir Kingston James preserves these names unaltered—and excusably so, though the result is not unexceptionable. Assimiro and Canario also read very oddly as the names of Ethiopians. Other names are given indifferently, and with an unfortunate effect, in both the Italian and the English forms, as Tancredi and Tancred, Boemondo and Bohemond, and, in the very same stanza, Guelpho and Guelph, and Solymano and Solyman. For Godfred, instead of Godfrey, we know neither authority nor reason. Rosmondo of Lancaster, Vincilao

for Wenceslaus, Carlo as the name of a Dane, are quite unjustifiable; but when we come to “Antonio” instead of Antony (Marc Antony), we perceive that this question of propriety in names must also be one wherein Sir Kingston James is more than negligent or unlucky—actually obtuse.

Of positive misapprehensions of the sense we have observed few; though every now and then there is a misapplied epithet, such as “braggart” to Argante, (canto iii. stanza 48), which is neither in the original nor in itself appropriate, and “brutally,” in the same connexion, for “barbaro,” which seems rather to mean here “barbarian” than “barbarous.” “Yet not the less obtained her grace” (canto iii. stanza 23) should be “Yet not the more.” In canto xvi. a whole stanza has been inadvertently omitted—the speech of Ubaldo following that of Armida, stanza 40.

We have been particular in specifying what we conceive to be the weak points and shortcomings of this translation, not because we depreciate it, but because we rate it in some respects high, and think that careful revision would bring it, in a second edition, much nearer to that perfection to which energy and enthusiasm justify its author in aspiring. What we have specified are all mere matters of detail, and therefore corrigible, save the fundamental preference of literality to free flow, and the consequent “debasement” (if we may use the mint-phrase) of the metre. Sir Kingston James has manifestly spared no pains: he even visited Jerusalem “in order more completely to identify himself with the subject, and catch as it were the colouring of the poem.” There is a great deal, as we have already said, of fidelity in the translation; also of spirit and force, and frequently enough very happy, effective lines or passages. Take, as an instance, this single line, which could not, we think, be finer:—

The horrible, harmonious trumpet rings;

fully equal, at least, to the original:—

Nè men le trombe orribili e canore.

The following passage from canto vii, terminating the engagement between the Latins and Moslems which ensues after the single combat between Argante and Raymond of Toulouse, gives a fair idea of the translator's executive merits:—

And were it not that it was not the day,

By the Almighty's changeless laws decreed,

This was perhaps the very hour that they,

Their blest toils o'er, Jerusalem had freed.

But Satan's satellites, who in that fight

Beheld how their own tyranny declined

(Permission gained), obscured with clouds the light,

And, in a moment, loosed the raging wind.

Before men's eyes a veil of darkness fell,

Shrouding the day and sun. Then seemed to blaze

The lurid heaven flashed with such terrific rays;

The lightning flashed with such terrific rays;

Peals rattling thunder; rains in hail descend,

That drowns the fallows, and the meadows fills;

The whirlwind's force cracks boughs, and seems to bend,

Not oaks alone, but even rocks and hills.

As thus with force combined, storm, wind, and rain

Full in the face abruptly struck the Franks,

The sudden fury of the hurricane

Checked, as it filled with panic fear, their ranks.

Alone the smaller part collected were

Under the standards, since they could not see;

When bold Clorinda, of this fact aware,

Spurred on to seize the opportunity,

And to her comrades cried, “For us contends

Heaven, and Eternal Justice aid affords;

Not in our faces its fierce wrath descends.”

Hence, unencumbered, we can use our swords.

Angered alone 'gainst them Heaven's fury drives

Right in the teeth of our affrighted foes;

Their arms it strikes, and them of light deprives:

Then on, where Fate the path to victory shows.”

Thus cheered the Pagans, and upon her back

Alone receiving the outburst of Hell,

Made 'gainst the Franks a desperate attack,

Scorning the blows that from them idly fell.

At the same time Argante, turning too,

Sad havoc 'mong the former victims made,

As from the field they panic-stricken flew,

And to the sword and storm their backs displayed.

The wrath immortal and the mortal sword
To strike the affrighted fugitives combined;
And streams of blood, mixed with the rain that poured,
That scene of murderous strife encarnadined.
Here, amid heaps of dying and of dead,
Pyrrhus and brave Ridoiphos breathless lie;
The latter's life-blood the Circassian shed,
The former was Clorinda's victory.

Thus fled the Franks, and still in eager chase
The Syrian troops and hellish fiends pursued;
Alone Prince Godfred turned a fearless face
'Gainst their fierce arms, and 'gainst the menace rude
That thunder, hail, and wind accumulate,
Rebuking bitterly his knightly peers;
Then checked his noble steed before the gate,
Within which fled the routed cavaliers.

And twice his steed that gallant hero dashed
'Gainst fierce Argante, and his charge repelled;
And twice with naked falchion thrust and slashed,
Where still their ground the thickest squadrons held.
At length, with all the others he retired
Behind the entrenchments; then, the victory gained,
The Turks withdrew; and, terrified and tired,
Within the encampment the Frank troops remained;

Nor altogether could escape e'en there
The force and fury of that hurricane:
Blown out are all the lights, and everywhere
Rushes the wind and penetrates the rain;
Smashed are the stakes, split canvas, shivered cords,
Uprooted tents, which to the skies are hurled;
With thunder, wind, and shrieks the rain accords,
In horrid harmony that stuns the world.

The version, as a whole, is both a manly effort and an able one: we have read it through with a refreshed sense of the excellencies of the original, and this is no small thing to say for a translation. Indeed, we may welcome into the English library in these volumes, one more honest and honourable rendering of a famous foreign original.

The Mysore Reversion, “An Exceptional Case.”

By Major Evans Bell, Madras Staff Corps.
(Trübner & Co.)

THIS is a book deserving to be read with attention by every Member of Parliament, and by every one who can in any way influence English policy in India. It treats of the great and besetting danger of our Empire in the East,—of that foul and fatal disease which seems ineradicable from our Indian Government, that vice of covetousness which is twice cursed, as cursing him that wrongs and him that's wronged. The terrible lessons that have been read to us at Cabul and during the Great Mutiny, ought to have cured us, indeed, of annexation, and the famous proclamation of the 1st of November, 1858, seemed to have fixed the limits of our aggressions. But, as this book too truly shows, the scotched snake begins to rear itself again, and a new career of annexation seems opening with the seizure of Mysore.

The case against the Government may be told in a few words. Mysore had been governed by Rajas of a Rajput family for four centuries before the rise of Hyder Ali. He and his son Tippoo reigned thirty-six years, and the English, assisted by the Nizam, then conquered Mysore. It was not considered expedient in the then state of our power to divide the whole of the acquired territory with the Nizam, who would thus have become too powerful. The English, therefore, contented themselves with certain districts, and assigned their equivalent to the Nizam, and then made over the remaining territory to a descendant of the ancient Hindû Rajas by a treaty, which was to be “binding on the contracting parties as long as the sun and moon shall endure.” This treaty was made on the 22nd of June, 1799, and in December, 1811, the Raja, having attained his sixteenth year, was allowed by the English to dismiss his able minister, proclaim his majority, and take the government into his own hands. The result that might have been expected followed. The ready money in the treasury, amounting to two millions, was squandered; the Raja's government became embarrassed; his subjects were oppressed by new exactions;

and in 1830 a revolt broke out in the north-western part of his dominions. Lord W. Bentinck then availed himself of the fourth article of the treaty, which, in case of an anticipated failure of funds to supply the permanent military force, allowed the Governor-General to assume and bring under the direct management of the Company such part or parts of the territory of the Raja as might appear necessary to render the funds available. Lord W. Bentinck, however, made use of that well-known figure by which the whole is taken for a part, and appropriated the Raja's entire dominions. The Mysore debts were paid off, the country flourished, the Raja gave proofs that his wild oats were sown, and manifested his loyalty during the troublous years of the Mutinies; but the vineyard of Naboth was never restored.

There are, of course, apologists for this act of spoliation, as there ever will be for all the bad deeds of a Government. Officials and red-tapists can see no harm in anything which bears the stamp of authority, and Major Bell does them full justice in stating such feeble arguments as they are able to advance; but of all the vast native population of India, there is, probably, not a man who would not express his disgust at the spoliation initiated by Lord Bentinck, and consummated by Lord Canning. Major Bell disposes of the question in a masterly manner. We give one passage as a specimen of his arguments; but the whole book deserves to be studied:—

"We can appreciate in Europe the value of a hereditary Monarchy, and a hereditary Peerage, without wishing to subject either Prince or Peer to a competitive examination,—but in India the alleged incapacity of a Sovereign or Chieftain is made the pretext, not for limiting his power, but for abolishing it altogether, and for degrading the family to stipendiary insignificance. We can give due weight at home to the claims of wealth and rank; but in India, far from admitting the great proprietors to participate in the management even of communal or civic affairs—instead of enlisting them on our side,—we have done everything to injure the property and the prospects of the class, to outrage their keenest susceptibilities, and to reduce them to a social position even lower than that of our secondary officials. Even if I admitted in full the arrogant pretensions of professional administrators, I should not believe in the efficacy of an ideal system of Government and of society, which I can only describe by the compound term of 'Chinese Socialism,'—a system under which there are to be great establishments, but no great estates; no privileges, except official privileges; no prescriptive rights, except those of the 'covenanted Services'; no subordination, except official subordination, to which Princes must daily bow down; no dignity, except official dignity; no access to even the lowest share in public life, except through a competitive examination. The ideal of Indian officials has never been brought to perfection: the greatest servants of Government in India, and the Home Authorities, have, from time to time, opposed its full realization; but the inevitable tendency of our system has been just what I have described. This has been, and continues to be, the tendency of our operations in Mysore; and the consummation would be much facilitated by the disappearance of the Rajah and his Court. I can place no hope or reliance upon such a system, either as a Conservative power, or as a reforming agent, when once the point of good order and a working administration has been gained. Perhaps we are entitled to a full acquittance for the past; perhaps we could not have instituted order and progress without territorial possession, without exclusive control. But if repression and proscription are maintained too long, and pushed too far, I believe that the system will be found—not only in Mysore, but all over India—to be ephemeral and explosive."

To this we will only add the warning words of the Commissioner of Mysore, Sir Mark

Cubbon, who, after sixty years spent in India, wrote, on the 22nd of May, 1859, "There never was such a mistake as to suppose that the hostile spirit has been extinguished or cowed by the suppression of the Mutiny, and that we can safely do now what would have been dangerous in former times."

The Life of Thorwaldsen. Collated from the Danish of J. M. Thiele, by the Rev. M. R. Barnard, B.A. (Chapman & Hall.)

A good life of Thorwaldsen was much to be desired in English, as comparatively little is known either of the great sculptor or his works. We believe the only book on the subject before the present attempt is an English translation of Hans Andersen's sketch,—and Hans Andersen's sketch is drawn from the same source as Mr. Barnard's Life, is more scanty as to facts, and endeavours to compensate for their absence by poetical effusions. In like manner the works of Thorwaldsen lie out of the usual track of travellers. There are one or two of them at Rome, one or two at Munich, and a collection of casts at Stuttgart. But the Museum and the Frue Kirke at Copenhagen afford the only means of judging him as a whole, and we fancy the majority of Northern wanderers are not of a class to do justice to those unrivalled collections.

Mr. Barnard is aware of these facts, and in his dedication to the Princess of Wales, he "thinks it may not be displeasing to your Royal Highness that the English public should have submitted to them some account of the life and works of an artist of whom they have hitherto known but little." We regret that he has stopped short in his undertaking. He should have aimed at something higher than a mere abridgment of "the voluminous work of Herr Thiele." Admitting the difficulty of such a task, we cannot think it worthy of Mr. Barnard's exertions. He requests us to excuse the baldness and abruptness of style forced upon him by the necessities of his task; but what we complain of is the fragmentary nature of the execution, the scanty account of Thorwaldsen's works, the general air of compilation. The work of every biographer may be described as collating, and some of the best lives that exist have been produced by that process. Nor is there any lack of books on Thorwaldsen in Danish, German and Italian, from whence Mr. Barnard might have derived more copious information. The lives of contemporary artists furnish incidental notices which are most valuable from the novelty of their point of view, and the side-lights they throw on a figure which the original biographer looks on from the front. We are sorry that Mr. Barnard has not attempted this, that he has been content to produce a pleasant and readable sketch without true literary effort, and that we can only give him credit for painstaking drudgery instead of fruitful and animating work. And we are the more sorry because his sketch is really pleasant and readable, because he has picked out the salient bits from Herr Thiele so well as to augur much better things if he had not confined himself to Herr Thiele.

Most people know that Thorwaldsen was the son of a ship-carpenter, that he passed nearly all his life in Rome, and that the turning-point in his career was the sale of his statue of 'Jason' to Mr. Hope. When we once get beyond this, the general knowledge becomes hazy, and its haziness may be partly excused by the fact that Thorwaldsen's biographers are not agreed on some of the chief facts in his life. There is a dispute about his christian name, a dispute about the day of his birth, a dispute about his birthplace. The loss of his baptismal register makes the first point uncertain, and it is a

question whether Bertel stands for Albert or Bartholomew. Thorwaldsen himself, when asked the day of his birth, replied "I don't know, but I arrived in Rome on the 8th of March." He said himself that he was born in Copenhagen, but some have placed his birth in Iceland, and a French biographer "en pleine mer." Madame de Staël, with her accustomed inaccuracy, says that Thorwaldsen was educated in Germany; the truth is, that he did not touch German soil till he was fifty, and was never educated at all. The deplorable state of ignorance and discomfort in which his youth was passed is noticed in several places by Mr. Barnard. "He rarely, if ever, alluded to his youthful days in after years; he doubtless felt that he could not speak of them without reflecting discredit on his father's name." On his arrival in Rome, a learned Dane, to whom he was recommended, wrote that it was positively wrong to send such uneducated persons to Italy; and it seems that Thorwaldsen was not only ignorant of French and Italian, but did not even know his own language properly. We are not surprised to find great artistic promise coupled with such deficiencies, for Thorwaldsen's case has many parallels among men of equal genius. But we may well have cause for wonder when we find him set down as "an idle dog," and read that on his voyage to Rome he was so desperately idle that he thought of nothing but what there was for dinner. And at the competitive examination, where his sketch of the 'Expulsion of Heliodorus from the Temple' won the small gold medal, he was so hopeless of success that he took a supply of spirits with him to keep up his courage, and was just leaving the place in despair when a friendly professor brought him back by kind remonstrances.

It is evident that Thorwaldsen looked on the day of his arrival in Rome as a second birthday; and Alfred von Reumont, who reports the saying in his short but admirable sketch of the sculptor's life, has an eloquent passage on the 'Jason':—"The fortunate leader of the Argonauts was also the leader of the band of gods and heroes who were destined to people the new Olympus; Jason conquered the Golden Fleece of Art for his creator." Thorwaldsen had exhibited the 'Jason' to admiring crowds, and had earned the applause of Canova; but no purchaser was found among the admirers, and the artist, at the end of his means, had fixed the day of his return to Copenhagen. He was to travel with a Russian sculptor; the *vetturino* was at the door, and the trunk strapped on, when his friend came in and announced that he could not get his passport *visé*, and must wait till the morrow. Thorwaldsen did not care to travel alone; he agreed to wait for his friend, and that afternoon Mr. Hope paid his memorable visit to his studio. The incident may be commended to all admirers of passports and all defenders of the Papal Government. If Thorwaldsen had returned to Denmark at that time, there is little doubt that modern Art would have lost one of her greatest sons. Even afterwards, when the sculptor's fame was established, he could derive no support from Denmark. The works that he had sent home, says Mr. Barnard, had only saddled him with expenses. It is, therefore, highly ludicrous to read, in a French work on Thorwaldsen, that this visit of "M. Hop" is to be regretted, for that if Thorwaldsen had gone back to Copenhagen at that time, he would have been a creator; he would not have drawn his inspiration from the ancients, but would have interpreted the North. "Encouraged by the princes of his country," continues the Frenchman, "impressed by its mountains, covered with snows, rolling torrents of water and fire,—by its heaven, obscured

by the vapours of cascades; inspired by books of Theogony, the Eddas, and the popular tales of Iceland, he would have represented the images of his thoughts; his talent would have created new divinities of which we have no conception; his genius, excited by the history of his country, would have taken a harder flight on the wings of Scandinavian poesy!" Fortunately, the Scandinavian was not driven to verify these rhapsodies.

If there is one modern sculptor who has caught the spirit of antiquity, of whom we need not regret that he devoted himself to Greek Art, and whose forms are not lifeless aspirations after a departed spirit, it is Thorwaldsen. What he might have done with Eddas and Theogonies, we do not pretend to say; we are content with what he did for mythology and the classics. That he was as much a creator here as he could have been in Northern legend, is almost a truism; he might have given us stranger forms, but his genius would not have shone the more clearly in a field without any competitors. When we see that he has repeated the old Greek subjects without repeating one of the old Greek sculptors,—that he has infused new life and youth into figures whose very essence is life and youth,—we think it idle to regret that he did not engage in a pursuit with which he had no sympathy, in which he had little chance of appreciation and no chance of support. As a testimony to his power in a classical subject, let us quote Mr. Barnard on the restoration of the Æginetan marbles:—

"On one occasion some visitors came to Thorwaldsen's studio to inspect the work after it had been restored, and when one of them begged the artist to be good enough to point out the places where additions had been necessary, he naively replied, 'I do not remember where they are, and I cannot see them.'"

His fertility and the suddenness of his inspiration may be judged from two instances given by Mr. Barnard, and a third, which Mr. Barnard has unfortunately omitted. A boy was sitting to him for one of his exquisite Ganymedes, and suddenly changed his posture for an easier one. Thorwaldsen seized a piece of clay, and made an instantaneous sketch of his statue called 'The Shepherd Boy,' representing a boy sitting on a rock, with a staff in one hand, and clasping his bended knee with the other. Another time, the sculptor saw a Roman youth of surpassing beauty and grace leaning against a street-door, and caught the idea of his figure of 'Mercury slaying Argus' from that sudden impression. The third instance occurred soon after Thorwaldsen's arrival in Rome. He had been sunk for months in gloom and despondency, and had not touched work, when one morning he rose earlier than usual, and produced that day the two matchless bas-reliefs of 'Night' and 'Morning.' The rapidity with which some of his most perfect works were struck out contrasts strangely with his unpunctuality in executing orders. There are many letters in Mr. Barnard's 'Life' that tell tales of this infirmity. Mr. Hope wrote some sharp reminders before he received his 'Jason'; and this looks as if Thorwaldsen was not mindful of the ladder by which he had ascended. Some of Thorwaldsen's own letters are curious specimens of language, and he resembled Raphael in jotting down drafts of letters, sketches, hints and ideas on the same pieces of paper. The backs of letters, invitations to balls or dinners, notices of meetings, served him in good stead; and when he had made such use of them, he consigned them to casks or boxes, pressing them down with broken glass and stones. Herr

Thiele concocted much of his work out of these materials.

The thought of his promises did not, however, affect Thorwaldsen in the slightest degree. In the midst of all his perplexities, he constantly undertook new commissions, or turned aside after some new conception. When he accepted the commission for the figure of 'Our Lord and the Twelve Apostles,' for the Frue Kirke, he was still under engagements to Mr. Hope and the city of Warsaw; but he resolved to let both of them wait and work only for his own country. Doubts were entertained as to his power of entering into the spirit of Christianity while his thoughts were so fully bent on Paganism. Yet his success in the figure of Christ and in the beautiful angel supporting the font cannot now be questioned. Talking on the subject with a friend, he said, "Neither do I believe in the gods of the Greeks, and yet, for all that, I can represent them;" just as Rachel pronounced the "je crois," in Polyeucte, with intense fervour, and was as far from belief as ever. Yet what modern sculptor has so well conveyed the idea of Christ, the attitude of inviting, with bent head and down-stretched arms, or so aptly symbolized the nature of His call in the font to which Christ's looks seem to point, and the words which are inscribed on the pedestal?

England had so many relations with Thorwaldsen during his lifetime, that her small knowledge of him now may seem the less excusable. But his works are scattered over the country, and it is well known that Englishmen are less acquainted with the "Art treasures in Great Britain" than with those in many parts of the Continent. Here is Mr. Barnard's account of Byron's sitting:—

"The meeting between the artist and the poet is graphically described by Andersen, 'Das Märchen meines Lebens,' II. 40:—"Whilst Thorwaldsen," he writes, "was modelling Lord Byron's bust, his lordship sat so uneasily in his chair, and kept changing the expression of his features to such a degree, that he was at length obliged to request him "to keep his face still, and not to look so unhappy." On Byron's making answer, that such was the usual expression of his countenance, Thorwaldsen merely replied, "Indeed!" and went on with his work as well as circumstances would permit. When completed, it was allowed to be an excellent likeness by every one, with the exception of Byron himself. 'He would look so miserable!' adds Thorwaldsen."

The interview of Thorwaldsen and Sir Walter Scott forms a companion picture:—

"Though Sir Walter Scott does not seem to have felt any especial interest in works of art, judging at least from the fact that he never once visited the Vatican during his stay in Rome, he was extremely anxious to make Thorwaldsen's acquaintance. The meeting between these two great personages must have been a strange one indeed! Though Sir W. Scott was acquainted with several languages, he could speak none but his own, while Thorwaldsen knew nothing of English. But there was one language common to both of them, and that was the language of the eye and heart. To have seen them pressing each other's hands, patting one another on the shoulder, nodding, smiling, while the only words that were heard on either side were 'connaissance,' 'charmé,' 'plaisir,' 'heureux,' 'placere,' 'happy,' &c., must have been diverting in the extreme. The interview of course could not be of long duration. On separating, they warmly embraced, and followed each other with their eyes as long as possible, 'darting at each other glances of the warmest assurances of regard and esteem.'"

Thorwaldsen's visit to Munich, which is well described in the 'Life of Rietschel' (Athen. No. 1368), is passed over far too shortly by Mr. Barnard; and we hear very little of Thorwald-

sen's works for Germany, or his relations with German artists or princes. This is the more to be regretted, as the Danish sculptor was ranked among the Germans in Rome. In one of Kaulbach's strange caricatures outside the new picture gallery in Munich, Thorwaldsen advances with Winckelmann, Cornelius and Overbeck, to attack the Cerberus of bad taste; and Schlegel said that Thorwaldsen, in later life, was quite a German in cultivation, and spoke German like a native. This side of the artist's character is quite passed over in Mr. Barnard's life, and one of the only traces of his connexion with Germany is the following anecdote of the ex-King Louis: "His Majesty dined with Thorwaldsen and others at a restaurant, and after dinner the mirth and merriment attained such a pitch that all the guests stood on the table to drink a *percat* for Don Miguel." Of Thorwaldsen's relations with Canova we read:—

"Canova was not straightforward with me. Whenever he had modelled any new work he would send for me to come and see it, to learn what I thought of it. If I remarked, for instance, that this or that fold in the drapery would look better if it were arranged rather differently, he would concur in my opinion and embrace me cordially, but he would never alter it after all. And when I in turn asked him to come and see any work of mine, he would make no other remark than that everything was excellent and exactly as it should be."

One or two other passages we should be glad to quote if our space allowed. The remarkable welcome Thorwaldsen received from his native sky, which wore a magnificent aurora each time he returned to Copenhagen; his conduct about invitations to dinner and evening parties, which he left entirely in the hands of his servant; the letter from his father, announcing that "the proud Admiral Nelson attacked us, but the Danish lads gave him such a warm reception that he will never care about returning to Copenhagen; this breakfast cost the English 2,600 men and twelve ships of the line; our loss was trifling; Nelson was four times as strong as we were, and yet had to sue for a cessation of hostilities;" will interest or amuse the general reader. Mr. Barnard adds a chronological catalogue of Thorwaldsen's works, which would be invaluable if he had stated where each one is to be found. As it is, it enables us to admire the variety and profusion of the artist, and we are grateful for this, at least, to his first English biographer.

Some Thoughts on the Inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. By Robert Eden, M.A. (Pickering.)

AMONG the crowd of works called forth by the Essays and Reviews and by Dr. Colenso, we hardly find any which confine themselves to a single point; or at least which profess to do so. In the little book before us we have the advantage of unity of subject combined with moderation of treatment. The author is a country clergyman, formerly a Fellow at Oxford; and we do not detect in him any strong marks of sect. He does not seem to be either Evangelical or Puseyite; and he does not attack the world with his Articles. He knows that the formularies of his Church leave the word out: and he does not pretend to insist upon our putting it in.

Mr. Eden relies, of course, very much upon the celebrated phrase, 2 Tim. iii. 16, *πᾶσα γραφή θεόπνευστος*. Translators and commentators have found it convenient to make a clause of these three words, which they have no right to do: our translation has it "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable...." Translate literally, and we have "All scripture god-breathed and profitable

for instruction...." The whole is one sentence, and the force of the first adjective is in the right it gives to infer the second. Be the *γραφῆς* what it may—the whole of the Old Testament, or a part—what is here said of it is that it is *theopneust* to the extent of being profitable for instruction. This passage proves nothing more. Cut out the three words; make them a doctrine to be explained without context; interpret the breath of God as having given all the contents, even, say many, to the very words; make your translation fit your alteration; and you are a theologian. It would have been another thing if *theopneust* had been a word of definite meaning, capable of explanation from other passages. But this is the only place in which the word occurs. Schleusner is driven hard to get materials for half a column. He helps himself by the *Syriac* version of 2 Pet. i. 21, in which there is *writing* instead of *speaking*; and says the action of writing is joined with the action of inspiring. He also finds *theopneust* dreams in Plutarch. A reference to Cicero and Virgil completes his philology. This passage is the one chiefly relied on.

St. Paul of course is speaking of the Old Testament. Let the word mean all that is claimed for it: how are we to apply it to the New Testament? Easily enough, according to Mr. Eden: "We must suppose that he claimed for the Christian records no less an authority than he conceded to the Hebrew Canon." By supposition, then, by hypothesis, we settle the whole matter. But are the cases alike? And did the Spirit of God, in either case, select the books which are to be taken as these records? Some logical maintainers of the common doctrine of inspiration demand it for the Councils which settled the Canon; and they are at least consistent.

The point, however, demands attention to another question which Mr. Eden has raised, and which contains a real difficulty. Supposing that the Scripture only contains what is directly from God, and is not full of such matter:—

"Who can say in what part 'doctrine' is not contained? Where is he to be found, however 'mighty in the Scriptures,' who would encounter the responsible task.....of making a selection of such parts as should be pronounced to teach or to involve 'doctrine,' with the implied decision that the remainder were undoctinal."

The distinction between doctrinal and undoctinal parts is of the clergyman's making. St. Paul says that all the Scripture is profitable for *διδασκαλία*, instruction. This has become a technical word, called *doctrine*,—better understood as *dogma*. The same thing has happened with the word *inspired*, which, being originally *God-breathed*, is now a word of many meanings, and part of a technical system. But even supposing that Mr. Eden's view were cut down to our own, there is still a difficulty. Grant that the parts of the Scripture are of materially different authority, who is to decide, in common phrase, which is which? Christianity answers the question, and Mr. Eden knows and had given the answer. He had spoken of

"The witness of the Spirit," that private and personal assurance of the divinity of the Scriptures, which, while by the cold sceptic it is, as an argument, rejected, is by "the honest and good heart" embraced as the strongest argument on which it leans."

We do not like the antithesis of the "cold sceptic" and the "honest and good heart." Sceptics of the lowest temperature have been men of undoubted honesty and goodness. But in the main point Mr. Eden is right. If there be anything at all in Christianity, the *private* and *personal* influence of God upon the individual man is its most distinctive feature. It is one of the three points of the baptismal

formula. But churches and clergy do not give it due prominence: there is not virtue enough in these teachers to be very forward to tell their pupils that they can get, for proper asking, a better teacher than church or priest. This is a *lay doctrine*: and the only sect which has made it duly essential and duly prominent has no clergy at all. And yet the Quakers have not been bad Christians, as compared with other sects.

The same Spirit which is the strongest proof that there is *divinity*—a better word than misused *inspiration*—in the Scriptures, is quite able to distinguish the divine from the human element. Nor does it matter at all that different persons, showing equally good fruits of Christian practice, arrive at different results: for this happens on all matters.

Mr. Eden should admit what we say: for he is one of those who logically contend for the inspiration of the collectors of the Canon of Scripture. That inspiration was "a faculty divinely imparted of discriminating between the pretensions to inspiration of those authors whose writings were finally admitted into the Canon, and those of any other whose books were rejected." Has the Almighty as much power to enable an individual to distinguish the parts of a book as a Council to distinguish between one book and another? Undoubtedly. Has any exercise of this power been promised? Here we come upon the old question between the Church of Rome and the Christian right of private judgment: into which we do not mean to enter. Those who like a moderate argument on the subject, as between one Protestant and another, without any appeal to other authority than the Bible itself, will relish Mr. Eden's book.

NEW NOVELS.

Love's Conflict. By Florence Marryat. 3 vols. (Bentley.)

THE memory of the late Captain Marryat, dear to all who appreciate well-told tales of thrilling adventure, suffers no dishonour by the dedication to it of his daughter's first experiment in fiction. Without the aid of any very ingenious plot, Miss Marryat has succeeded in producing an exceedingly good novel. We give it no slight praise when we say that it possesses the rare combination of unflagging interest from beginning to end, great descriptive power, and an influence (if novels are indeed capable of an influence, good or bad) altogether good. Its title embodies its subject: a long struggle between right and wrong, in two hearts, brought together by fate, and separated by the laws of God and man. A young wife, bound to a despicable husband, and after her marriage, and while yet a girl, introduced into daily contact with the only man she has ever loved, and whose ruling passion, till he met her, had been woman-hatred, fights with terrible temptation, and succeeds in conquering it. It is a difficult subject, and one in handling which, an inferior hand would make either a sentimental failure, or a mischievous lesson. Miss Marryat does neither the one nor the other. In her hero and heroine she has portrayed a couple of strong characters, educated them by adversity, and preserved them consistent both with themselves and with real life. As a result, they conciliate the reader's sympathy, no less by their likeness to flesh and blood, than by their claims to his respect; while in the entire picture of which they occupy the foreground, is to be found the exceptional charm of a very melancholy reality. Such novels as this are just the class which we desire to see multiplied; because they deal with trials with which society is only too well acquainted, and by dealing with them in a practical manner, show how they are to be met, and how they are to be overcome. The very simple secret of the interest that pervades 'Love's Conflict' consists in a very difficult achievement—the delineation of men and women who really are men and women, and do not pretend to be angels

or devils. Miss Marryat has discovered the importance of this secret, on her first entry into the legion of novelists; and the amount of success she has at once attained, in endeavouring to act upon her discovery, encourages us to hope that she will persevere in the same track.

The book must not be supposed, however, to be quite free from blemishes. It has errors in it both of fact and taste. For both, the twofold character of a lady and a novice must be the excuse. In one or two instances when we should have much preferred the *res acta refertur* principle, we cannot help regretting that the writer should have chosen the *agitator in scena*; erring, no doubt, on the side in which, of the two, modern society sees the lesser evil, yet nevertheless erring, we venture to think, in going sometimes a step or two too far in her manifest anti-prudish tendencies. A good novel, in these novel-reading days, should contain nothing to make it in the least degree awkward for a gentleman to read before ladies; and whether a book will stand this test or not depends, we all know, not on the subjects talked about, but on the way in which they are robed. To Miss Marryat, we feel quite sure, a hint like this will suffice. Again, she has made a couple of very glaring blunders in respect of two rather important episodes in the plot. When she tells us, early in the first volume, that a lady's elopement deprives her of all claim to her father's entailed estates, and substitutes the hero of the story as the heir in consequence, she tells us what is simply untrue in law. By eloping from her husband ten times, and even obtaining a divorce as her punishment, "Madame de Broissart" would still have done nothing to deprive herself of her interest in the family acres. In the same way, a very little inquiry would have informed Miss Marryat, while penning her third volume, that for a prosecutor to withdraw from a charge of murder, and for a coroner's jury to avoid the publicity of a trial by returning a verdict of insanity against the murderer, are impossible feats—no less impossible than a lady's endeavour to write a novel and not make some mistake on a point of law. When we add, that there is a good deal of bad French in the book, a good deal more of bad English, still worse punctuation, a description of a church service in which the sermon came first and the liturgy afterwards, we have said enough to show that we recognize merit and excellence in a novel which, with all these marks of carelessness and defect, we can yet recommend to our readers.

Beatrice. By Julia Kavanagh. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THIS is not a pleasant novel. Slow, grinding tyranny, cowardly intrigue, dull vice,—these things offer bad bases on which to construct a plot; bad background for any such amount of womanly sweetness and male heroism as are demanded to complete the dramatic persons of the well-known group. The principal character, Dr. Gervoise, is such a villain as can only exist by favour of feminine imagination. To indulge his desire of living luxuriously, in a great country house, which his daughter-in-law has inherited, he commits a series of great and little crimes, extending over many years, with an impunity and success totally without probability; torments his weak and innocent wife; tampers with the happiness of her daughter; drives her forth from her inheritance; does a bit of peculation here; a little poisoning, it is suspected, there; and lies, of course, to everybody, on every occasion, most transparently. The law would have made an end of the proceedings of such a scamp, in real life, long ere the end of the first volume. Histories and associates are not much more life-like than himself; and during the whole story keep the reader in a state of disbelieving irritation, which we cannot think is the effect Miss Kavanagh intended to produce. Nor are the love affairs of Beatrice more engaging and less tiresome. Without exaggeration, she may be said to hunt down a husband only half inclined to marry her, going through delicate distress after delicate distress, falling into "one gulf and pitfall of evil fortune after another, till, somehow, we cease to care for her calamities, having been unable to appreciate the witcheries with which she is credited. There is, in brief, a want of

nature and simplicity in the tale, which will limit its number of readers. Miss Kavanagh writes the language well; and, to her credit, has obviously bestowed a care on her story which is not the universal habit with lady novelists; but her material is unfortunate, and no evasion will substantially mitigate the verdict which we regret to be called on thus to pronounce.

By the Sea. By the Author of 'Hester Kirtan,' &c. 2 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

THE Author of 'Hester Kirtan' continues to give the same promise of future success that she showed in her former efforts, but she has not redeemed that promise as yet. Much care has been bestowed on some of the characters in the present work, but the story shows marks of haste and want of finish. It might almost be imagined, from the absence of proper explanations and connecting links, that the book was originally written at greater length, and then abridged by an obliging friend who did not take sufficient pains to make himself acquainted with the author's intentions. When Phoebe is spirited away by a French smuggler, we are left in doubt as to the motive, and it is not clearly enough explained afterwards; when she comes back to her native land we are quite in the dark as to the means of her release and the steps by which her hiding-place has been discovered. The reconciliation, or rather the fresh understanding, of Mr. and Mrs. Cass, a husband and wife who seem to have no feelings in common, is not worked up with sufficient art to have an appearance of reality; and some of the most important personages, as, for instance, the smuggler captain and his dark-eyed partner, are too summarily disposed of at the end. At one part of the book a certain Simon Edwards, deceased, acquires a kind of historical importance, and the reader feels that he is imposed upon by a pretender, as he knows nothing about Simon's antecedents, or his connexion with the living characters of the story. The unexpected softening of the heroine's feelings towards her ardent admirer, Captain Job Thorn, deserves more careful treatment and delicate painting. Young ladies have been allowed in all ages to change their minds without a reason that will satisfy logicians, but they must at least appear to have a reason which satisfies themselves. The sketch of the old Frenchwoman, the smuggler's mother, is rather amusing, and in this and several other passages the author shows a good deal of comic and descriptive power.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A Book of Golden Deeds. By the Author of 'The Heir of Redclyffe.' (Macmillan & Co.)—To choose all that is noble, and to exclude all that is blended with weakness or selfishness or error, in the memoirs of the last three thousand years, and to embody the result, "as a treasury for young people," in a neat four-and-sixpenny volume, is a task the laboriousness of which must cover a multitude of faults in its execution. Miss Yonge has, at all events, the credit of being the first to undertake it. She has been so far successful that we are able to commend her book to all classes of readers: to the young, for whom it is especially intended, as a most interesting collection of thrilling tales well told; and to their elders as a useful handbook for reference, and a pleasant one to take up when their wish is to while away a weary half-hour. There are several of the stories, as might reasonably be expected, which, if we had had our choice, should have been left out; some half-a-dozen, like the first, whose mythical character and unfitness for practical imitation seem hardly to warrant their insertion as gravely-recorded "golden deeds"; and others, of which the last is a fair specimen, the mere capacity to live a long time without food being somewhat too dimly recognizable as one of the author's "various forms of the truest and deepest glory." For these errors of judgment, however, we have said she has abundant excuse. She had need to be superhuman if, with so large a field to roam over, she did not sometimes leave a flower and choose a weed. Moreover, even in the two narratives we have named, there is so much of casual information to

be picked up that the reader is well compensated for their irrelevancy. In another way the book has blemishes for which Miss Yonge has no excuse. With a little extra time or trouble she might easily have avoided the obscure sentences and slipshod English which her readers are continually running over from beginning to end. What, for example, in the name of Dean Alford, can be made of the following commencement of the story, called 'The Rescuers'? "We have had a glimpse of the horrors on board a wrecked ship, and the resolution with which they can be endured and conquered. Let us now look at the shore, and at the spirit that has prompted even women to become their rescuers." In the new edition, which the 'Book of Golden Deeds' is sure to reach, Miss Yonge will, we do not doubt, have discovered and corrected all such blunders. We have seen no prettier gift-book for a long time, and none which, both for its cheapness and for the spirit in which it has been compiled, is more deserving of praise.

A New Atmosphere. By Gail Hamilton. (Low & Co.)—With much truism and more fallacy Mr. Gail Hamilton re-states the case in behalf of the ladies who would be midwives instead of mothers, and prosperous doctors, rolling about town in their carriages, instead of affectionate daughters, brightening the domestic life of aged parents. Here and there Mr. Hamilton utters a sentiment with which we can concur; but, as a whole, his volume is a poor production when it is compared with similar essays by female writers. His most indignant denunciations of woman's degradation by masculine tyranny are aimed at abuses which may have disfigured English society half a century since, but are no longer features of our social system. In these passages he does injustice to his fellow Americans, as well as to the people of the old country. The woman's rights cause does not need such champions as Mr. Gail Hamilton, who is more zealous than discreet, and whose book is remarkable for impulsiveness rather than sagacity.

The Martyrdom of St. Cecily: a Drama, in Three Acts. (Office of 'The Lamp').—The tragedy of Music's sweet saint is told in "lengths" of blank verse, of which the following is a fair specimen:—

Enter METELLA and MAURA.

METELLA. Come, Cecily; you keep us waiting. Well, You do us credit; Valerian need not think That he is condescending when he leads Cecily for his wife.

CECILY. I am ready, mother; And you shall take me to the banquet-hall. Come, Charles; come with us.

METELLA. No, Cecily; For reasons known to me and to your father, Charles will not go with you; she remains Our slave; we cannot spare her. You will have Slaves and to spare in your new home. Come on! Cecily. Oh, this would be a bitter grief, dear mother! I never dreamed of living without Charles.

METELLA. It must be so; you must leave her here. You have allowed her too much liberty; She will forget that she is still a slave.

—This tragedy is also in some sort choral—the 'Hymn of St. Thecla' and the 'Hymn of St. Cecily' having been set to music—it may be presumed by the author of the play. The music has as much value as the verse which has been extracted above.

Clever Stories of Many Nations. Rendered in Rhyme by John G. Saxe. Illustrated by W. L. Champney. (Boston, U.S., Ticknor & Fields; London, Low & Co.)—The best things in this handsome volume are some of the illustrations, which keep the promise of the title-page, and are clever. The execution, too, though a touch too finical and wiry, is creditably careful. Here commendation must stop. Mr. Saxe may have the will to be the Ingoldsby of America, but he has not a single requisite for the part. He means to be easy, and he is slipshod; he means to be sprightly, and is only childish. Yet he is not afraid of the most difficult themes, though the same have been already treated by the best story-tellers in prose and rhyme. As an instance, we will give the two verses by which he commences his amusing journey through the legend of Ahasuerus:—

Come list, my dear,
And you shall hear
About the wonderful Wandering Jew,

Who night and day,
The legends say,
Is taking a journey he never gets through.

What is his name,
Or whence he came,
Or whither the weary wanderer goes;
Or why he should stray
In this singular way,
Many have marvelled, but nobody knows.

—The second stanza reminds us of a ballad which Mrs. Humby used to sing, in her sharp, syllabic way, from one of Mr. Planché's extravaganzas. In the appropriation of his plots Mr. Saxe is as unscrupulous as if he were an English dramatist. Why, to put a bad case, must he lay hands on Mr. Sealy's prose whimsy, 'Ho-fi of the Yellow Girdle,' from 'The Porcelain Tower,' unless his purpose were to show how completely the fun could be discharged from it by "a clever rhymester"?

Familiar Letters from Europe. By Cornelius Conway Felton. (Low & Co.)—Concerning this collection of letters, half a score of years old, and now published—no sensible person could guess why—three things are to be said. They are indiscreet. They are incorrect. They are insipid. First, the President of Harvard University proved himself a veritable countryman of Mr. Willis, Mrs. Stowe, Miss Sedgwick, and Grace Greenwood, by serving up in print the celebrated English persons who allowed him to stare at them. In describing London, he serviceably "makes play" with Mr. Dickens—noblemen being designated by "dashes." The same thing happens with such men of mark as endured his company at Paris; and the tale "tops up" with the deposed Queen of Greece, for whose civilities the President was grateful, whose dancing till day-dawn he admired, who was, in short, "every inch a Queen," and to whom, by way of loyal Republican return for her notice, he wished, with all his heart, the annexed sovereignty of Turkey,—feeling persuaded that the Ottoman Empire cannot exist for many years to come; also, that Russia (with Greece as its dependency) is to swallow alive this hemisphere (England included), and to become, face to face with America, one of the two Powers which are to divide the world. Secondly, what is to be said of the accuracy of a Professor who, in his enthusiasm for Jasmin, the poetical Provençal haidresser, declares that the author of 'Fanchonnette' devoted his gains to the completing of unfinished churches,—who has found potatoes dressed with caraway-seeds not unusual at German *tables-d'hôte*,—and who describes *lapis-lazuli* (!) as one of the ingredients in the "acres" of wavy marble pavement at St. Mark's, Venice? Thirdly, the insipidity of his style is equal to his indiscretion and incorrectness. The late President had the best intentions in the world to be sometimes pert and sociable, other times collegiate and classical; but he failed to fulfil either purpose in these 'Familiar Letters.'

Messrs. Virtue Brothers & Co. have published a New Edition of *Original Poems for Infant Minds*, by Several Young Persons.—Our Reprints include: *The Irrationale of Speech*, by a Minute Philosopher (Longman),—*Essays on Religion and Literature*, by Various Writers, edited by H. E. Manning, D.D. (Longman),—*Critical Writings*, by Theodore Parker, being Vols. IX. and X. of Theodore Parker's Works (Trübner & Co.).—Messrs. Saunders & Otley have issued Part II. (*Animals*) of *The History of a Bit of Bread; being Letters to a Child on the Life of Man and of Animals*, by Jean Macé, translated from the French by Mrs. Alfred Gatty.—We have before us a Third Edition of *Letters, Conversations and Recollections of S. T. Coleridge*; with a Preface by the Editor, Thomas Allsop (Farran),—a Fourth Edition of Mr. W. H. Ainsworth's *Constable of the Tower* (Chapman & Hall), and a Twenty-Fifth Edition of Dr. De Fivas' *New Grammar of French Grammars* (Lockwood & Co.).—In Miscellaneous Publications we have *Naval Armour*, dedicated to Lord Palmerston, by James Chalmers (Mitchell),—*Agricultural Education; What It Is, and How to Improve It*, by T. D. Acland (Ridgway),—*Cakes, Leeks, Puddings and Potatoes: a Lecture on the Nationalities of the United Kingdom*, by G. Seton (Edmonston & Douglas),—*Odds and Ends; No. I. Sketches of Highland Character—Sheep Farmers and Drivers*

(Edmonston & Douglas).—*Bourne's Table of the Nominal Horse Power of Steam-Engines for determining the Nominal Power of Steam-Engines of Every Class* (Longman).—*A Letter addressed to H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, by Fiat Justitia, —On Acting and Kindred Subjects, considered in Relation to Genius and Talent; also, on Theories of Chemistry* (Mathieson).—*Public Lessons of the Hangman*, by G. J. Holyoake (Farrah).—*On Food as a Means of Prevention of Disease*, by Erasmus Wilson (Churchill & Sons).—*Lectures on Public Health*, by Dr. Mapother (Hardwicke).—*A Short Treatise on the Construction of a Cheap Achromatic Astronomical Telescope; together with a Few Notes on its Application to the Most Interesting Objects of the Heavens*, by R. B. Wegg (Beck).—*The Marshes of South Italy: a Few Words bearing upon Land Speculation and Cotton Growing in Italy—Malaria and Briandage*, by J. Bailey Denton (Chapman & Hall).—*How to Get Thin, and How to Get Fat; or, Banting Supered*, by L. L. Smith (Melbourne, Clarkson & Co.).—*No. 1 of The Household Monthly Magazine* (Henderson).—*Letter to Viscount Palmerston 'On the Employment of our Labour and Capital at Home,' by the Introduction of Reproductive Works to develop the Internal Resources of the Country*, by G. P. White (Cornish).—*Vol. V. of Outline of Modern Farming*, by R. Scott Burn (Virtue Brothers & Co.).—*A Sketch of the Lives of the Davenport Brothers*, by J. H. Powell (Caudwell).—*And The Hereford Diocesan Calendar and Clergy List for 1865* (Parker).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Arnold's Essays on Criticism, cr. 8vo. 6/6.
Banerman's Inspiration of Scripture, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Barth's Bible Commentary, 8vo. 12/6 cl.
Bell's Wild Flowers of the Soil, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Bradshaw's Overland Guide to India, 8vo. 16mo. 5/6 cl.
Butcher's Essays on Operative Surgery, illust. imp. 8vo. 21/6 cl.
Cameron's Our Tropical Possessions in Malayan India, 16/6 cl.
Cesar (Julius), by the Emperor Napoleon III., Vol. 1, 8vo. 12/6 cl.
Maps to ditto, 5/6 cl.
Carver and Gilder's Design Book for Decorative Furniture, 30/6 cl.
Cooke's Rust, Smut, Mildew, &c., fc. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
Edwards's Our Domestic Fireplaces, royal. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
Foreign Office List, 1865, demy 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Forrest's History & Antiquities of St. Leonard's, Edinburgh, 3/6 cl.
Haynes's Outlines of Equity, 2d edit. cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.
Kavanagh's Beatrice, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Lever's Luttrell of Arran, illust. 8vo. 17/6 cl.
Lowndes's Introduction to Philosophy of Primary Beliefs, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Malan's Philosophy or Truth? 8vo. 12/6 cl.
Marshall (Philip), Passages in the Life of, post 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Merivale's Selection of Extracts from Italian Poets, post 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Miles Buller, or the Little World of Unisette, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Milton's Modern Treatment of Diseases of the Skin, 8vo. 3/6 bds.
Morris's Discourse on Dilapidations, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Newton's Fresh Religious Thoughts, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Ophthalmic Review, Vol. 1, 8vo. 12/6 cl.
Original Designs for Decorative Furniture, royal folio, 42/6 cl.
Shakespeare, His Inner Life, &c., by Heraud, 8vo. 24/6 cl.
Stowe's House and Home, fc. 8vo. 1/6 bds.
Timbs's Year Book of Facts, 1865, fc. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Weber, Life of, from German by P. Simpson, 2 vols. post 8vo. 22/6 cl.
Wood and Sharp's Year Book of Pharmacy, cr. 8vo. 2/6 s/wd.
Wrexall's Mercedes, a Novel, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31/6 cl.

EXPLORATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND.

Haslemere, Feb. 1, 1865.

I have received by the last mails from Vancouver Island some letters from my brother, Mr. Frederick Whympier, narrating the results of the late exploring expedition, to which he was attached as artist; and as their discoveries appear to me to be of public importance, I forward a summary of them to you for publication.

The expedition was formed in last May, in order to obtain better knowledge of the interior of the island, but also with a view to the discovery of agricultural land and minerals. It started from Victoria on the 7th of June, in H.M. gunboat Grappler, and commenced its work at the Great Cowichan Lake, returning by the same vessel from Nanaimo on the 21st of October. As to describe minutely the country over which they passed during these five months would be to fill your columns with a catalogue of names, unintelligible without a map, let it suffice to say, that they crossed the island in several directions, and made lateral deviations at numerous points, passing altogether over 1,340 miles of new country, and exploring, in a tolerably complete manner, the southern half. Of this distance nearly 600 miles was travelled on foot, more than 700 by canoe, and the remainder by rafts. In the discovery of minerals the expedition met with great success, finding almost immediately valuable veins of copper, apparently inexhaustible in extent; gold was found on all bars of the Cowichan River up to three cents per pan, with indications of richer diggings; and

this was followed by the discovery of very rich iron-stone in large quantities. In the neighbourhood of the Cowichan River they found open tracts of agricultural land, from 300 to 500 acres in extent, ready for the plough; in other districts yet larger spaces, and altogether many thousand acres. Traces of nickel and plumbago were met with; but probably the most valuable of all the discoveries was that of bituminous coal, on the coast, close to deep water, and the outcropping of which showed a seam more than a foot in thickness.

Many tracts were thinly wooded with scattered maple from twelve to twenty inches in diameter, and others more heavily with forests of the most magnificent spars of Douglas, hemlock and white pine, the latter, from its rarity on the coast, being of great value. Dr. Brown, the leader of the expedition, discovered an entirely new pine; and they brought down to Victoria, for carving purposes, a fine log of arbutus, which, in the interior, attains to considerable dimensions. To quote the words of Dr. Brown, "the spars and lumber alone, with their capabilities of being floated to the sea, would prove a certain fortune to any man with capital enough to buy an axe and a grindstone."

Many edible wild fruits were found, and a large collection of interesting seeds was made. Of the larger kinds of animals they saw and shot deer and elk, the latter being in great droves; bears, beavers and wolves were very numerous; martens and racoons were also plentiful; grouse and wild ducks are described as being found to any extent.

The number of lakes in the interior is very considerable; at one place, from Comox to Alberni, a chain of seven reach nearly across the island—the largest of these is twenty-two miles in length. On Barclay Sound two rivers yielded good prospects of gold, paying at the rate of two or three dollars per man per day, and which, if worked by the usual machinery, would yield to a much larger extent. The most important of the discoveries, in its immediate effect on the colony, was the finding of gold on the Sooke and Leech Rivers; this almost depopulated Victoria for a time, and within a few weeks of being known these diggings had yielded 40,000 dollars; the Government alone received 9000/ from the sale of licences. The gold from these rivers sold at twenty dollars per ounce.

Towards the end, the expedition experienced considerable hardships from being imperfectly supplied with provisions, and near Barclay Sound had a narrow escape from coming to grief, owing to the recent chastisements of the Indians in that part by some of our gunboats; they, however, happily escaped all accidents, and arrived in safety at Victoria, having in their discoveries surpassed their expectations.

From a paragraph I find in the *British Colonist* of Dec. 1, the colony would appear to be prospering. At a sale of some ground in Victoria, belonging to the Hudson Bay Company, a lot, 70 x 50 feet, realized 11,500 dollars; another, 73 x 49 feet, 12,250 dollars; but after a few others had been knocked down at about the same prices, the remainder of the lots were withdrawn, in consequence, it was said, of the above amounts being insufficient.

EDWARD WHYMPIER.

OPERATIVE COACHMAKERS' EXHIBITION.

Feb. 8, 1865.

As first proposer, and one of the promoters of the Operative Coachmakers' Industrial Exhibition, I am very glad to see you have noticed the undertaking, and begun to take it to pieces, and see what it is made of, and what it can be made into,—in fact, we want discussion and criticism on the part of the public and the press.

We are, like other manufacturers, bound to produce things that people will buy, and the rage for some time past has been, 1st, for cheapness; 2ndly, lightness; and, 3rdly, for one carriage to do duty for two, three, and sometimes four. You may guess what is the result in attempting to do so much; you must sometimes sit back to back, sometimes crab fashion, and at others with only a very slight interval between your nose and knees.

In this age of wealth, luxury, and general comfort, carriages, from having reached the acme of

comfort for travelling, and elegance for court use, are reduced to mere makeshifts; in fact, if you happen to be in the West End of London while Her Majesty is holding a levee, you will see nearly as many dirty cabs taking the company, as of private carriages, and those mostly of a mean description. Is the company so much poorer than that which attended levees in former times? or is it the same sort of inattention to details that would lead a slovenly man into a ball-room with muddy boots and dirty gloves?

While Art is so much valued in connexion with architecture, pictures, goldsmiths and silversmiths' work, pottery, book illustration, and numerous other professions and handicrafts, it requires public attention to be drawn to the vehicles of the present day, whether to convey a Duchess to a drawing-room or a workman to his suburban dwelling.

GEORGE N. HOOPER, Chairman of the Committee of Management.

HUGH FALCONER.

Hugh Falconer was one of those rare men—an original discoverer; and his life is deserving of a larger record than that of a man who gains the popular fame of a discoverer by writing of other men's labours.

On the 29th of February, 1808, Hugh Falconer was born at Forbes, in the north of Scotland, a town best known from its traditional connexion with the "blasted heath" of Macbeth. He received his early education at the grammar school of Forbes, and afterwards studied arts for four years at the University of King's College, Aberdeen, and medicine for four years at the University of Edinburgh. From the former University he received the degree of A.M., and from the latter, in 1829, the degree of M.D. As a boy, he had exhibited a decided taste for the study of natural objects, which he eagerly followed up in Edinburgh under the systematic tuition of Profs. Graham and Jameson. Qualified for the practice of medicine by the diplomas of the Royal College of Surgeons and of the University of Edinburgh, he was nominated to an appointment as assistant-surgeon on the Bengal Establishment. But not having attained the required age of twenty-two years, and the real bent of his mind being upon natural history, he devoted the compulsory interval to assisting the late Dr. Nathaniel Wallich, in the distribution of his great Indian herbarium, and to the study of geology and paleontology. The Museum of the Geological Society, under the charge of Mr. Lonsdale, gave him access to the collection of Indian fossil mammalia from the banks of the Irawaddy formed by Mr. John Crawford, during his mission to Ava. The description of these remains by Mr. Clift had excited much interest in the scientific world, as the first instance in which the ground was broken in the paleontology of tropical regions. In both cases the occupation proved of material service to the subject of our memoir in his subsequent career, and in the latter instance it determined the labours to which he afterwards so zealously devoted himself. For, immediately after his arrival in Calcutta, in September, 1830, he undertook the examination of a collection of fossil bones from Ava, in the possession of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, and communicated a short paper upon them, which appeared early in 1831, in the third volume of the *Gleanings in Science*, an Indian journal then conducted by the late Mr. James Prinsep. This notice was slight and modest in its scope; but the cultivators of science in India were then few in number, and its appearance at once gave Falconer a recognized position in their ranks.

Early in 1831, Dr. Falconer was ordered to the army station of Meerut, in the north-western provinces. His first and last military duty during twenty-six years of service was to take charge of a detachment of invalids proceeding to the Sanatorium of Landour in the Himalayas. This led him to pass through Suharunpore, where the late Dr. Royle was then superintendent of the Botanic Gardens. Kindred tastes and common pursuits soon knit Falconer and Royle together; and at the instance of his friend, Falconer was speedily appointed to officiate for him during leave of absence, and, on his departure for Europe in 1832, to succeed

him in charge of the Botanic Garden. Thus, at the early age of twenty-three did he find himself advanced to a responsible and independent public post, offering to a naturalist the most enviable opportunities for research; so fertile was the Indian service then in chances to rise for any young officer who chose to make the exertion. Suharunpore is situated between the Jumna and Ganges rivers, outside the belt of the Tarai forest, which lies between the mountains and plains, and is distant about twenty-five miles from the Sewalik hills, beyond which rise the Himalayas. It is thus most favourably situated as a central station for natural history investigations,—the rivers, plains, forests and hills teeming with life in every shape, and the range of elevation combining, within a short distance, the features and productions of tropical, temperate and Alpine regions insensibly blended. Being a remote provincial station, with only half-a-dozen European families, the white man had to draw on local means in all emergencies where the appliances of civilized life were required; but the intelligence, docility and exquisite manual dexterity of the natives, backed by their faith in the guiding hand of the European, furnished an inexhaustible fund of resources. To construct, for example, a barometer for mountain explorations, broken tumblers were melted and blown into a tube, mercury was distilled from cinabar purchased in the bazaar, a reservoir was turned out of boxwood felled on the mountains, and finally a brass scale was cast, shaped, and even graduated, by a native blacksmith, under the superintending eye of the amateur. Such discipline was of value in training the young officer to habits of self-reliance, and to kindly relations with those among whom his lot was cast, and no doubt contributed to that great fund of information for which Falconer was remarkable.

In 1832 Dr. Falconer commenced his field explorations by an excursion to the sub-Himalayan range, and from the indication of a specimen in the collection of his friend and colleague Captain, now Sir Proby T. Cautley, he was led to discover vertebrate fossil remains *in situ* in the tertiary strata of the Sewalik Hills. A brief notice of the fact, extracted from a letter, appeared in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* for 1832 (vol. i. pp. 97 and 249). The search was speedily followed up with characteristic energy by Capt. Cautley, in the Kalowala Pass, by means of blasting, and resulted in the discovery of more perfect remains, including miocene mammalian genera. The finding, therefore, of the fossil Fauna of the Sewalik Hills was not fortuitous, but a result led up to by researches suggested by previous special study, and followed out with a definite aim in India. Other geologists, including Govan, Herbert, and a sharp-eyed observer like Jacquemont, had previously gone over the ground, but had failed to detect the fossil remains. Early in 1834 Dr. Falconer gave a brief account of the Sewalik Hills, describing their physical features and geological structure, with the first published section showing their relation to the Himalayas (*Journ. Asiat. Soc. of Beng.* vol. iii. p. 182). The name "Sewalik" had been vaguely applied before then, by Rennell and others, to the outer ridges of the true Himalayas and the lower elevations towards the plains. Dr. Falconer restricted the term definitely to the flanking tertiary range, which is commonly separated from the Himalayas by valleys or *doons*. The proposed name was not favourably received at the time by geographical authorities in India; but it is now universally adopted in geography and geology as a convenient and well-founded designation. Capt. Herbert, in his Mineralogical Survey of the North-Western Himalayas, had referred the sub-Himalayas to the age of the "New Red Sandstone." Dr. Falconer, on his first visit to the Sewalik Hills, inferred that they were of a tertiary age, and analogous to the *Molasse* of Switzerland (*Journ. Asiat. Soc. of Beng.* 1832, vol. i. p. 97). Thirty years of subsequent research by other geologists has not altered that determination, although our exact knowledge of the formation has been greatly extended.

The researches thus begun were followed, about the end of 1834, by the discovery, by Lieuts. Baker

and Durand, of the great ossiferous deposits of the Sewaliks, near the valley of Markunda, westward of the Jumna and below Nahau. Capt. Cautley and Dr. Falconer were immediately in the field; and, by the joint labours of these four officers, a sub-tropical mammalian fossil Fauna was brought to light, unexampled for richness and extent in any other region then known. It included the earliest discovered Quadrumana, an extraordinary number of Proboscidea belonging to Mastodon, Stegodon and Elephas; extinct species of Rhinoceros; Chalicotherium; Equus and Hipparion; Hexaprotodon, Hippopotami and Merycopotamus; Sus and Hippohyus; the colossal Ruminant Sivatherium, together with species of camel, giraffe and new types of Bovidae; also species of Cervus, and Antelope, and Capra; Carnivora belonging to the new genus Sivalarctos and Enhydriodon, Felis Machairodus, Hyæna, Canis, Lutra, &c.: among the Aves, species of ostrich, cranes, &c.: among the Reptilia, Monitors and Crocodiles of living and extinct species, the enormous tortoise *Colossochelys Atlas*, with numerous species of Emys and Trionyx; and among fossil fish, Cyprinidae and Siluridae. The general facies of the extinct Fauna exhibited a congregation of forms participating of European, African and Asiatic types. Thrown suddenly upon such rich materials, the ordinary means resorted to by men of science for determining them by comparison were wanting. Palaeontological works or osteological collections in that remote quarter of India there were none. But Falconer was not the man to be baffled by such discouragements. He appealed to the living forms abounding in the surrounding forests, rivers and swamps to supply the want. Skeletons of all kinds were prepared, the extinct forms were compared with their nearest living analogues, and a series of memoirs by Dr. Falconer and Capt. Cautley, descriptive of the most remarkable of the newly-discovered forms, appeared in the 'Asiatic Researches,' the *Journ. Asiat. Soc. of Beng.* (vol. iii. to ix. inclusive) and in the *Geological Transactions*. The Sewalik explorations soon attracted notice in Europe, and in 1837 the Wollaston medal in duplicate was awarded for their discoveries to Dr. Falconer and Capt. Cautley by the Geological Society, the fountain of geological honours in England. These Sewalik researches, interrupted for a time by distant employment on other duties, were subsequently resumed by Dr. Falconer in England.

Concurrently with these researches, Dr. Falconer's official duties as superintendent of the Suharunpore Botanic Garden led him to explorations in the snowy range of the neighbouring Himalayas. In 1834, a commission was appointed by the Bengal government to inquire into and report on the fitness of India for the growth of the tea-plant of China. Acting on the information and advice supplied by Dr. Falconer (*Journ. Asiat. Soc. of Beng.*, 1834, vol. iii. p. 182), the commission recommended a trial. The government adopted the recommendation; the plants were imported from China, and the experimental nurseries were placed under Falconer's superintendence in sites selected by him. Tea-culture has since been greatly extended in the north-west Himalayas from the valley of Kangra in the Punjab on through the province of Kumaon. In Assam, where the indigenous plant was first discovered by Capt. Charlton, the earliest attempts were failures; but the cultivation has taken such firm hold, that with a ready sale for the produce in England, the tea of the Bengal Presidency bids fair to become one of the most important commercial exports from India, as Falconer, indeed, long ago predicted.

In 1837 Dr. Falconer was ordered to accompany Burnes's second mission to Cabul, which preceded the Affghan war. United at Peshawar, the party consisted of Burnes, Mackeson, Leech, Lord, Wood, and Falconer. Of these six officers, the sole survivor now is Wood, the explorer of the Oxus. Dr. Falconer first proceeded westward to Kohat, and the lower part of the valley of Bungleish, in order to examine the Trans-Indus portion of the Salt range; and then, in company with Lieut. Mackeson, made for Cashmeer, where he passed the winter and spring, examining the natural history of the valley. The following summer (1838) he crossed the

mountains to Iskardo, in Bulkistan, and, by the aid of Rajah Ahmed Shah, traced the Shigar branch of the Indus to its source in the glacier on the southern flank of the Mootztagh range, now ascertained to be 28,200 feet above the level of the sea. Having examined the great glaciers of Arindoh and of the Bahlidoh valley, he then returned to India, *via* Cashmeer and the Punjab, towards the close of 1838, to resume charge of his duties at Suharunpore. During the whole of this expedition to Cashmeer Falconer kept copious diaries, which, it is to be hoped, are in a state fit for publication.

In 1840 his health, shattered by previous attacks of jungle fever, rheumatic fever, dysentery and disease of the liver, the results of incessant exposure, gave way; alarming indications of constitutional break up set in; and in 1842 he was compelled to seek for a chance of recovery by sick leave to Europe, bringing the natural history collections amassed by him during years of exploration of the Himalayas and plains of India. They amounted to eighty cases of dried plants and about fifty large cases of fossil bones, together with geological specimens illustrative of the Himalayan formations from the Indus to the Gogra, and from the plains of the Punjab across the mountains north to the Mootztagh range.

Soon after his arrival in England in the autumn of 1843, fresh duties devolved on him in connexion with the Sewalik fossils. Capt. Cautley had presented his vast collection to the British Museum. Its extent and value may be estimated from the fact that it filled 214 large chests, and that the charges on its transmission alone to England amounted to 602l. Dr. Falconer's selected collection was divided between the India House and the British Museum: the great mass was presented to the former, but a large number of unique or choice specimens, required to fill blanks or improve series, was presented to the latter. Most of the specimens were still imbedded in matrix. The authorities at the India House fitted up a museum room specially for the reception of their acquisitions; and Sir Robert Peel's government gave a liberal grant to prepare the materials in the national museum for exhibition in the Palaeontological gallery. Dr. Falconer was intrusted with the superintendence of the work, and rooms were temporarily assigned to him by the Trustees in the British Museum. The Court of Directors liberally employed him on duty, on the footing of service in India, and at his instance they prepared a series of casts of the most remarkable of the Sewalik fossil forms, sets of which were presented to the principal museums in Europe. Under the patronage of the Government and of the India House an illustrated work was commenced, entitled 'Fauna Antiqua Sivalensis,' of which the plates of nine parts were brought out between 1844 and 1847. But the descriptive letter-press did not keep progress with the plates, and, at the close of 1847, before the arrears could be brought up, Dr. Falconer was compelled, by the expiry of his leave, to return to India. It is believed, however, that he has left behind the manuscript for several additional numbers of letter-press. Besides the Sewalik fossils proper, the 'Fauna Antiqua' included illustrations of a very valuable and important series of mammalian remains from the pliocene deposits of the valley of the Nerubudda, together with illustrations of the miocene Fauna of the Irawaddy and of Perim Island, in the Gulf of Cambay. The great Indian fossil collection, unique in the richness, stupendous size and fine preservation of the specimens, has long constituted one of the chief ornaments of the Palaeontological Department of the British Museum.

His botanical collections were less fortunate. Having partially suffered from damp on the voyage to England, they were left deposited in the India House during his second absence in India, and the specimens underwent a ruinous process of decay. In 1857 Dr. J. D. Hooker applied to the Court of Directors for the herbarium collections in the India House, and saved a few of the Cashmeer and Himalayan dried plants.

During his residence at this time in England, Dr. Falconer contributed to the Royal Asiatic Society a 'Discourse on the Fossil Fauna of the

Sewalik Hills' (*Journ. R. Asiat. Soc.* 1844, p. 107); to the Zoological Society, a description of the 'Gigantic Fossil Tortoise, Colossochelys Atlas, discovered by himself and Capt. Cautley' (*Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1844, p. 85); and to the Geological Society, memoirs 'On Fossil Remains of Anoplotherium and Giraffe from the Sewalik Hills' (*Proc. Geol. Soc.* 1844, vol. iv. p. 235), and on 'Dinotherium, Giraffe and other Mammalia from the Gulf of Cambay' (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* 1845, vol. i. p. 356). To the Linnean Society he communicated papers on the Asclepiad affinities of 'Cryptolepis'; on 'Aucklandia Costus,' the Cashmere plant which yields the *kostos* of the ancients, then for the first time determined; and on 'Narthex Assafetida,' being the first determination also of the plant, long contested among botanists, which yields the assafoetida of commerce. He had found it growing wild in the valley of Astore, one of the affluents of the Indus. To the same Society he contributed, in 1847, a paper on 'Athalamia,' a new genus of Marchanties (*Lin. Trans.* vol. xx. p. 397).

In 1848, on the retirement of the late Dr. Wallich, Dr. Falconer was appointed his successor as Superintendent of the Calcutta Botanic Garden, and Professor of Botany in the Medical College. In 1850 he was deputed to the Tenasserim Provinces to examine the teak forests, which were threatened with exhaustion from reckless felling and neglected conservation. His Report, suggesting remedial measures, was published in 1850 in the 'Selections from the Records of the Bengal Government.' In 1852 he communicated a paper 'On the Quinine-yielding Cinchonas and their Introduction into India' (*Journ. Agr. Hort. Soc. of India*, vol. viii. p. 13); and in the same year the writer of this sketch saw in the Calcutta Botanic Garden a Warden case containing specimens of *Cinchona Calisaya*, in which Falconer took great interest. Dr. Falconer was not at the time cognizant of Waddell's accurate determination of the species; but he recommended a trial, and indicated the hilly regions in Bengal and the Neilgherries in Southern India as the most promising situations for experimental nurseries. The subject was taken up independently of this recommendation some years afterwards; the bark-yielding Cinchonas were then introduced from South America, and are now thriving in India. In 1854, assisted by his friend the late Mr. Henry Walker, he undertook a 'Descriptive Catalogue of the Fossil Collections in the Museum of the Asiatic Society of Bengal,' which was published as a distinct work in 1859. In the spring of 1855 he retired from the Indian Service; and on his return home he visited the Holy Land, whence he proceeded along the Syrian coast to Smyrna, Constantinople and the Crimea during the siege of Sebastopol.

Soon after his arrival in England he resumed his paleontological researches, and in 1857 he communicated to the Geological Society two memoirs 'On the Species of Mastodon and Elephant occurring in the Fossil State in England' (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xiii. p. 308). Besides attempting to discriminate with precision the three British fossil Elephants, till then confounded under the name of *Elephas primigenius*, Dr. Falconer produced for the first time a synoptical table, showing the serial affinities of all the species of the Proboscidea, fossil and living, then known, of the former of which a large number were either discovered or determined by him. The same year he gave an account of the remarkable Purbeck mammalian genus, *Plagiaulax*, discovered by Mr. Beckles near Swanage (*op. cit.*, vol. xiii. p. 261); this was followed, in 1862, by a second paper on the same subject (*op. cit.*, vol. xviii. p. 348). Having occupied himself during several years with the special investigation of the mammalian Fauna of the Pliocene as distinguished from that of the Quaternary period of Europe, he was conducted to the examination of the Cave Fauna of England. In 1860 he communicated a memoir on the numerous ossiferous caves of Gower, explored or discovered by his friend, Lieut.-Col. Wood (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xvi. p. 487). The existence of *Elephas antiquus* and *Rhinoceros hemiteichus* as members of the Cave Fauna was then for the first time established, and the age of that Fauna pre-

cisely defined as posterior to the Boulder Clay, or period of the glacial submergence of England. In 1862, Dr. Falconer communicated to the British Association at Cambridge an account of *Elephas Melitensis*, the pigmy fossil elephant of Malta, discovered, with other extinct mammals, by his friend, Capt. Spratt, C.B., in the ossiferous cave of Zebbug. This unexpected form presented the Proboscidea in a new light to naturalists. Further researches on the general questions concerning the same family appeared in a memoir published in the *Natural History Review* in 1863, the title of which but inadequately indicated the range of the subjects discussed.

While exploring the Himalayas in his early days, Falconer's attention had been already directed to the physical features which distinguished them from mountain ranges in temperate regions, and more especially to the general absence from their southern valleys of the great lakes so common in corresponding situations in the Alps. When the hypothesis of the excavation of lake basins by glacial action was brought forward, he took a share in the discussion, and combated the view by an appeal to the contradictory evidence furnished by the Himalayas, the Lakes of Lombardy and the Dead Sea (*Proc. R. Geogr. Soc.* 1864, p. 38). In connexion with this subject, it may be mentioned that his last public act was to advocate the grant of 100*l.* by the Council of the Royal Society to Sir Henry James, for accurately determining, by levelling, the amount of depression of the Dead Sea below the level of the Mediterranean.

For nearly thirty years Dr. Falconer had been engaged more or less with the investigation of a subject which has lately occupied much of the attention both of men of science and of the educated classes generally, viz. the proof of the remote antiquity of the human race. In 1833, fossil bones, procured from a great depth in the ancient alluvium of the valley of the Ganges, in Hindostan, were figured and erroneously published as human. The subject attracted considerable attention at the time in India. In 1835, while this interest was still fresh, Dr. Falconer and Capt. Cautley discovered the remains of the gigantic miocene fossil tortoise of India, which, by its colossal size, realized the mythological conception of the tortoise which sustained the world on his back (*Geol. Trans.* 2nd series, vol. v., 1837, p. 499). About the same time, several species of fossil *Quadrumanus* were discovered in the Sewalik Hills, one of which was thought to have exceeded in size the orang-outang, while another was hardly distinguishable by millimetrical differences from the living "Hoonuman" monkey of the Hindoos. Coupling these facts with the occurrence of certain existing species, and of the camel, giraffe, horse, &c., in the Sewalik Fauna, and with the further important fact that the plains of the valley of the Ganges had undergone no late submergence, and passed through no stage of glacial refrigeration to interrupt the previous tranquil order of physical conditions, Dr. Falconer and Capt. Cautley were so impressed with the conviction that the human race might have been early inhabitants of India, that they were constantly on the look out for the upturning of the relics of man or of his works from the miocene strata of the Sewalik Hills. In their account of the gigantic tortoise, after discussing the paleontological and mythological bearings of the case, they sum up by stating,—"The result at which we have arrived is, that there are fair grounds for entertaining the belief that the Colossochelys Atlas may have lived down to an early epoch of the human period, and become extinct since." (*Proc. Zool. Soc.*, 1844, p. 85).

Ten years later, Dr. Falconer resumed the subject in India, while investigating the fossil remains of the Jumna. In May, 1858, having the same inquiry in view, while occupied with his cave researches, he communicated a letter to the Council of the Geological Society, which suggested and led to the exploration of the Brixham cave, and the discovery in it of flint implements of great antiquity, associated with the bones of extinct animals. In conjunction with Prof. Ramsay and Mr. Pengelly, he drew up a report on the subject, which, communicated in the autumn of the same year to

the Councils of the Royal and Geological Societies, excited the interest of men of science in the case. Following up the same object, he immediately afterwards proceeded to Sicily, to examine the ossiferous caves there, and discovered the "Grotto di Maccagnone," in which flint implements of great antiquity were found adhering to the roof matrix, mingled with remains of hyænas now extinct in Europe. An account of this important case was communicated to the Geological Society (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* 1859, vol. xvii. p. 99). Having examined the collection of M. Boucher de Perthes, on his route to Sicily, he was impressed with the authenticity of some of the flint implements discovered in the valley of the Somme, and urged his friend, Mr. Prestwich, who is of the highest authority in this branch of geology, to proceed there, and investigate the conditions of the case. This led to Mr. Prestwich's celebrated memoir on the Flint-yielding Quaternary Deposits of the Somme (*Philosophical Trans.* 1859). Thus, in 1859, the subject of the antiquity of the human race, which had previously been generally discredited among men of science, was again launched upon fresh evidence in both the stratigraphical and the cave aspects. Since then it has been actively followed up by numerous inquirers; and Dr. Falconer himself was contemplating, and had indeed actually commenced, a work on 'Primeval Man.' In 1863, Dr. Falconer took an active share in the singularly perplexed discussion of the *cause célèbre* of the human jaw of Moulin-Quignon, and, in the conference of English and French men of science held in France, he expressed doubts as to its authenticity, but in that guarded and cautious manner which was characteristic of him (see his *Letters to the Athenæum*, April 4, May 2, 1863, and the note May 23, 1863). In the spring of last year he called attention in the *Times* to an account of the remarkable works of Art by "Primeval Man" discovered by his friends, Messrs. Lartet and Henry Christy, in the ossiferous caves of the Dordogne; and in September he accompanied his friend, Prof. Busk, to Gibraltar, to examine caves in which marvellously well-preserved remains of man and mammals of great antiquity had been discovered. Before starting he drew up, in conjunction with Mr. Busk, a preliminary report on the specimens brought from Gibraltar to this country, which was presented to the British Association at Bath. He attached great importance to the results of this expedition, and on his return home he at once commenced a detailed examination of the fossil remains of Gibraltar, the results of which he intended to have elaborated in conjunction with those of his explorations in Sicily, into a separate work on the Mediterranean Cave Fauna.

But his labours were at an end. He suffered considerably from exposure and fatigue on his return journey through Spain from Gibraltar, so that the inclement winter told with additional force upon a constitution naturally susceptible of cold and weakened by long exposure and disease in India. On January 19, on his return from a meeting of the Council of the Royal Society he felt depressed and feverish. The attack speedily became developed into acute rheumatism, complicated with bronchitis and congestion of the lungs, which proved fatal on the morning of January 31st. On the 4th of February his remains were committed to their last resting-place, at Kensal Green, in the presence of a large number of his sorrowing friends and fellow-labourers.

From what has been said, it is obvious that Falconer did enough during his lifetime to render his name immortal in science as one of the greatest paleontologists that ever lived. But the work which he published was but a small fraction of that which he actually accomplished. The amount of scientific knowledge which has perished with him is prodigious, for he was cautious to a fault; he never liked to commit himself to an opinion until he was sure that he was right; and he has died, in the fullness of his power, before his race was run. Those who knew him well can best appreciate his fearlessness of opposition when truth was to be evolved, his originality of observation and depth of thought, his penetrating and discriminating judgment, his extraordinary memory, his scrupulous care in ascribing to every man his due,

and his honest and powerful advocacy of that cause which his strong intellect led him to adopt; whilst they, more than others, will have occasion to deplore the death of a staid adviser, a most genial companion and a hearty friend. His place, indeed, no man can fill.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Mr. Charles Dickens is preparing to issue a People's Edition of his works. The volumes will be printed on good paper, and published once a month, at two shillings each. A frontispiece will adorn each volume.

The final volume of Mr. Carlyle's 'Frederick the Great' will be published during the current month.

The Emperor has changed the title of his book from 'Vie de Jules César' to 'Histoire de Jules César.' The imperial edition has been printed for some days past; but the presentation of copies has been stayed; as the Emperor desires to re-write the Preface before giving the volume to the world. The publication is not likely to be postponed beyond the end of this month.

The sketch models for the Prince Consort Memorial, Hyde Park, recently executed by the sculptors commissioned with these groups, having required considerable modification in their design, were again submitted for Her Majesty's further consideration, yesterday, the 10th inst. The group, "Asia," by Mr. Foley, remains, by Her Majesty's command, unaltered.

The Royal Horticultural Society has offered a series of prizes, which are likely to make some stir throughout the world. An International Fruit Show is appointed to be held from Saturday, the 9th Dec., to Saturday, 16th Dec., 1865, inclusive, when the Gold Medals of the Society will be awarded for the best collection of Fruit and Vegetables produced in the garden of a Sovereign;—also for the best collection of Fruit and Vegetables grown by any Botanic or Horticultural Society in any part of the world;—also for the best and most complete representative collection of Fruit and Vegetables from any of the Colonies;—also for the best and most complete representative collection from the Presidencies of India. Certificates will be awarded for separate exhibitions of Fruits and Vegetables, either fresh or preserved, from all parts of the world; and the second and third Gold Knightian Medals will be given to the exhibitors who shall obtain the greatest number of first-class, second-class and third-class certificates respectively. The first Gold Banksian Medal will also be awarded to the exhibitor who shall gain the greatest number of marks, counting first, second and third certificates as three, two and one marks respectively.

It is contemplated to erect a memorial of the late Dr. Hugh Falconer, in the form of a marble bust, in the rooms of one of the learned Societies of which he was so great an ornament. The following gentlemen have undertaken to receive subscriptions for this purpose:—Dr. J. Percy, G. Busk, Esq., C. Macrae, Esq., and Dr. C. Murchison.

All reasonable doubts with regard to the hat which Mr. Maclise borrowed from the effigy of Nelson in Westminster Abbey having been the property of the Admiral, as noted by us last week, are disposed of by the description of the article itself. It is known to have been Nelson's custom to have a sort of green pad, or shade for his injured eye, fixed to the lining of the hats he wore, and so placed as to hang in front of the organ; such a pad is attached to the hat in question; the lining of the garment bears signs of use, in stains from the head of the wearer. Inside the hat appears the maker's name, a stamp certifying that duty had been paid for it, thus,—“James Lock, hatter, St. James's Street; value above 12s. 8d., not exceeding 18s. 1d., hat duty, 4s., Stamp Office, No. 57.” As to the likeness of the effigy itself, some interesting testimony is borne by one of the officials at the Abbey, who says that it was for a long period the custom of a near female relative of Nelson to go to the Abbey once a week, on which occasions she was often deeply moved by the resemblance of the figure to the original.

Dr. Percy has been appointed to the management of the warming and ventilating apparatus in the Houses of Parliament.

Mr. Collier has requested us to insert the following explanation:—“I find that I have unintentionally done injustice to Mr. Bohn's edition of Lowndes's 'Bibliographer's Manual,' when I stated, in my letter in the last *Athenæum*, that he, like his predecessor, had supposed that the reprint of Surrey and Wyatt's Poems, dated the 31st of July, 1557, was the first. I took the words 'first edition,' in italic, to refer to the title-page copied above them (which is decidedly of the second impression), not observing the date 'fift day of June An. 1557' at the end of the description. The words *ad imprimendum solum* are not on the title-page of the copy of the 5th of June, 1577, and the address at the back of the title-page is not, as Mr. Bohn gives it, 'To the Reader,' but 'The Printer to the Reader.' These are trifling points; but from the day when the work was originally issued to our own time, the Poems have never been reprinted as they stand in Tottel's first edition: neither have the contents of the volume been ever accurately described.”

As an addendum to his paper in the last *Athenæum* (p. 163), Serjeant Manning sends the following note:—“‘Copyholder’ may be regarded as an *euphemistic* term applied to the tenant in villenage.”

Messrs. Maxwell & Co. desire to contradict Miss Annie Thomas's account of her novel of 'Barry O'Byrne.' Miss Thomas says it was an early work written for a sixpenny magazine, and is now republished as a three-volume novel without her consent. Messrs. Maxwell rejoin that it is a recent work, first offered to them only fifteen months ago, and that it is reprinted with her consent. We cannot interfere in this quarrel of author and publisher.

From Messrs. Dulau & Co. we have received nine sheets of a Survey of Rome, &c., executed to scale, and in an excellent manner. To a man living in Rome, or to a student engaged on the antiquities of that city, these charts must be of the greatest value.

From a sure source we learn that the song 'I give thee all' was not one of the National Airs; but that it was composed by Moore. It appears to have been one of the poet's miscellaneous songs,—perhaps given by him to Kemble for his operetta, in which it was certainly sung, and in the reprint of which it was published as by Kemble. So far, Mr. Friswell is right, and we very cordially credit him with the major part of his reference. As we wish the gentleman no harm, we say no more than that we hope to hear of his being engaged on worthier work than compiling books of quotations.

Of all the remarkable objects ever exhibited at a scientific *soirée*, the most remarkable is surely the one described in a list of articles recently exhibited in a *réunion* at Sheffield, a copy of which has been sent to us. It is—"Photograph of a Pannikin found by the Corps of a Man who lost his way in Central Australia." If, instead of a picture, the exhibitors had only shown the corpse that found the pannikin when it had lost its way, the company at the conversation would have enjoyed a sensation.

Mr. Wesley has published 'A Memory Sheet of Great Events of British History,' compiled by Mr. Edward Farr. We cannot praise Mr. Farr for his accuracy in statement; and as a sheet like this is worse than useless when it is not correct, we are unable to praise him at all. His omissions and mistakes are equally wonderful; within a few lines he omits Shakespeare's death and makes the House of Commons impeach Bacon; he appoints Carr Prime Minister and creates him a Duke.

A new map of the British Isles, well drawn, sharply coloured and strongly mounted on a roller, has been produced by Messrs. Bacon & Co. It is on a smaller scale than the beautiful map published by Mr. Wesley, and from its style is better adapted to the schoolroom than to the library. The outlines of provinces and counties are boldly marked, while the minutest points, such as the course of roads, railways and rivers, are indicated with suitable care and distinctness.

Some students of the Caroline era may thank us for this copy of an inscription in the Church of Llandegfan, near Beaumaris. The shelf upon which the dole of bread referred to is placed, and the custom of distributing it in accordance with the bequest, are still maintained in the church. "To ye memory of Mr. Thomas Davies, Gent., servant to ye two most illustrious Princes Henry and Charles both Princes of Wales, and now to King Charles ye First, Messenger in ordinary of his Matie Chamber, who in his lifetime twice in Christian Charity conferred on this Prische of Llan Degvan where he was borne ye summe of fifty two shillings yearly for ever to ye reliefe of ye Poore in this parische. That is to say on every Sunday morning after Divine Service one dozen of Bread for eur, and for the continuance hereof He hath given to ye Churchwardens four shillings a year for euer. He gave this, aged 62, and after died in God's feere, Anno 1649." Above the tablet thus inscribed is a bust-portrait in high relief of the donor, in the full costume of his office, with black and red in alternate stripes on the puffed shoulder-pieces of his jacket; the royal arms are embroidered on his breast. Under the east window and above the wooden table which serves as an altar is a small slab of stone, which is kept carefully black-leaded, still used, we were assured, to sustain the sacramental vessels when in use.

Recent explorations show that the Mexican Empire contains a rich mine of coal. This important discovery has been made at Itoluca, about 90 miles from Mexico, and the coal is reported to be of excellent quality.

Among the numerous purposes to which photography has been applied, may now be included that of, so to speak, surveying, or mapping a country. Taking advantage of the physical conformation of the country around Grenoble, which is extremely mountainous, Capt. Javary has succeeded in making an admirable photographic survey of Grenoble and its environs. Eighteen different stations, at various elevations, were selected, and the result is, a map in which all the outward physical features of the country are represented with microscopical minuteness.

A friend who has just returned from Munich writes:—"A smaller and cheaper edition of Goethe's 'Faust,' with illustrations by Engelbert Seibertz, is now being published; and, while its price puts it more within the reach of humble mortals, it is a fitting ornament for a drawing-room table. It may interest any amateur or collector who is desirous of purchasing a series of sketches from 'Faust,' to know that the originals of Prof. Seibertz's illustrations are now for sale in Munich. There are sixty oil sketches, some of them superior, some a little inferior to the engravings. A favourable judgment has been passed on them by Dr. Waagen, who finds them copious in invention, both witty and beautiful, admirable in their tone of colour, happy in character. Many of those in the Second Part of 'Faust' are extremely good; though here I presume to differ from Dr. Waagen, who prefers the illustrations to the First Part. We must remember that the scenes from the First Part of 'Faust' are almost hackneyed—that Gretchen before the picture of the Madonna, and the Meeting of Faust and Gretchen have been drawn to excess,—and then it will not be difficult to account for the absence of much novelty in such sketches. But in the Second Part Prof. Seibertz had new ground, and he has used it admirably. There are wonderful effects of colour in the pictures of Paris and Helen on the stage,—the explosion, with Faust fainting on the stage,—Wagner making Homunculus, quite an old Dutch picture of an alchemist,—Faust rewarded by the Emperor,—Faust blinded by Care,—and Faust's death; as well as in parts of the classical 'Walpurgis Night.' There are some in the First Part of much vigour, but not generally so good; while the painter seems at first to have fallen more into the temptation of being academical. Still, the gallery, as a whole, is quite worth the notice of any collector."

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

MR. MORBY'S COLLECTION OF MODERN HIGH-CLASS PICTURES is ON VIEW at the Royal Exchange Fine Arts Gallery, 34, Cornhill. This collection contains examples of Rosa Bonheur—Hook, R.A.—T. Ford, R.A.—Clarkson Standfield, R.A.—Phillips, R.A.—Roberts, R.A.—Goodall, R.A.—Cooke, R.A.—Ward, R.A.—Macdonald, R.A.—Creswick, R.A.—Pickersill, R.A.—Dobson, A.R.A.—Cooper, A.R.A.—Leighton, A.R.A.—Calderon, A.R.A.—Sant, A.R.A.—Le Jeune, A.R.A.—P. Nasmyth—Gale—Duffield—Baxter—Gallait—Gérôme—Willems—Duverger—Birket Foster, &c.—Admission on presentation of address card.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Patron, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.—Professor Pepper's Third Ghost Lecture (J. H. Pepper and Henry Dicks joint-inventors)—Nile Sauce, or the Travels of Bruce and the Wonderful Rovings of the Great Baron Munchausen—Stokes on Memory Daily—All the other entertainments as usual.—Admission to the whole, 1s. Open 12 to 5, and 7 to 10.

SCIENCE

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 2.—General Sabine, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On a New Geometry of Space,' by Prof. Plücker.—'Researches on Solar Physics. Second Series. On the Behaviour of Sun Spots with regard to Increase and Diminution,' by Messrs. Warren De la Rue, B. Stewart and B. Loewy.—'On the Rapidity of the Passage of Crystallized Substances into the Vascular and Non-Vascular Tissues of the Body,' by Dr. H. Bence Jones.

GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 25.—W. J. Hamilton Esq., President, in the chair.—W. G. Adams, Esq. and Capt. S. S. Windham were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'Notes on the Climate of the Pleistocene Epoch of New Zealand,' by J. Haast, Ph.D.—'On the Order of Succession in the Drift-Beds in the Island of Arran,' by Dr. J. Bryce.—'On the Occurrence of Beds in the West of Scotland in the Position of the English Crags,' by Dr. J. Bryce.—'On the *Tellina proxima* Bed at Chapel Hall, near Airdrie,' by the Rev. H. W. Crosskey.—The following specimens were exhibited: Fossil Plants and Mollusca from the Cape of Good Hope, presented by Dr. R. N. Rubidge.—Fossils from the Glacial Beds of the Isle of Arran, exhibited by Dr. J. Bryce.—Sections of Cetacean Teeth from the Red Crag of Suffolk, exhibited by E. Charlesworth, Esq.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Annual Meeting.—Jan. 23.—F. P. Pascoe, Esq., President, in the chair.—An abstract of the Treasurer's Accounts for 1864, and the Annual Report of the Council, were read.—The following were elected to form the Council for 1865: the Rev. H. Clark, Messrs. Dunning, McLachlan, Moore, Pascoe, W. W. Saunders, Shepherd, A. F. Sheppard, E. Sheppard, F. Smith, Stainton, Stevens and J. J. Weir.—The following officers were re-elected: Mr. Pascoe, President; Mr. Stevens, Treasurer; Messrs. Shepherd and Dunning, Secretaries; and Mr. E. W. Janson, Librarian.—The President delivered an Address.

Ordinary Meeting.—Feb. 6.—F. P. Pascoe, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. Pascoe nominated as his Vice-Presidents Messrs. Stainton, W. W. Saunders and F. Smith.—The President announced that the Council had determined to offer two prizes of the value of five guineas each, to be awarded at the end of the present year to the authors of essays of sufficient merit on subjects connected with Economic Entomology.—Mr. Brewer exhibited *Corticaria truncatella* of Mannerheim, a beetle new to Britain, of which he had captured a large number of specimens, and *Ceuthorrhynchus biguttatus*, a rare British weevil; both insects were taken at Worthing, at the roots of sea-side plants.—Mr. Bond exhibited a further supply of a remarkable variety of the common ghost moth (*Hepialus Humuli*), from the Shetlands; and specimens of *Bombus Smithianus*, hitherto found only in those islands.—The President made some remarks upon the geographic range of the genus *Cosmophus*.—Major Cox sent for exhibition a portion of a wooden dog-kennel infested with the dog-tick, *Ixodes plumbeus*, accompanied by some interesting notes of his observations thereon.—Mr. J. S. Baly read a paper, entitled 'Descriptions of New Genera and Species of Phytophaga.'

CHEMICAL.—Feb. 2.—Prof. A. W. Williamson, President, in the chair.—On this occasion the Meeting was held, by the special invitation of Dr. Hofmann, in the lecture-theatre of the Royal College of Chemistry, and there was a very large attendance of members.—The following candidates were elected Fellows, viz.: T. P. Blunt, N. Bradley, C. Eastcourt, R. H. M. Bosanquet, J. Reid, R. Percival, A. Smith, F. Walker, A. Vacher and T. H. Windham.—Dr. A. W. Hofmann delivered a discourse on the subject of 'Lecture Illustrations,' and performed a series of experiments intended to serve as class-demonstrations of the composition by volume of the four typical bodies, hydrochloric acid, water, ammonia and marsh gas, which the lecturer happily described as "the four corner-stones of chemical science." The analysis of these compounds was effected by the voltaic battery, with and without the aid of the Rühmkorff coil; and, in the case of two of them, viz., water and hydrochloric acid, their composition was also demonstrated by synthesis. The contraction in volume accompanying the production of aqueous vapour from mixed hydrogen and oxygen gases was exhibited in a novel manner, and the whole series of experiments appeared to excite much interest on the part of the audience.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Feb. 6.—W. Pole, Esq., Treas. and V.P. in the chair.—The Countess of Tankerville, F. W. Braine, J. Brogden, W. H. Harrison, T. Lucas, J. L. Mears, W. Miller, J. Romanes, E. Y. Western and H. Westropp, Esqs., were elected Members.—The Chairman announced a legacy of 100l. to the Institution from the late G. Dodd, Esq., and a donation of five guineas from Mrs. Barlow; and the following additions to 'The Donation Fund for the Promotion of Experimental Researches': The Rev. John Barlow (second donation), 10l.; H. Vaughan, 21l.; E. Packe, Esq., 5l. 5s.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Feb. 1.—E. Chadwick, Esq., C.B., in the chair.—The paper read was, 'London Sewage from the Agricultural point of View,' by J. C. Morton.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.—Jan. 30.—C. Jellicoe, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. P. Gray read a paper which was supplemental to that read at the last Meeting. Its object was to explain the rationale of the processes employed in the former paper for the formation of logarithms and anti-logarithms of twelve places which were delivered without demonstration. An algebraical investigation of the resolving process was given, showing that the factors into which the number whose logarithm was required was resolved, were factors whose logarithms were always to be found in the accompanying tables, and the sum of which logarithms consequently would be the logarithm required.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL.—Jan. 31.—Dr. J. Hunt, President, in the chair.—The following new Members were elected: Dr. J. M. Middleton, J. T. R. Groves, F. E. Blyth, R. S. Stone, H. G. James, and W. Wilson.—The following Local Secretaries were elected: Hyde Clarke, Esq., *Smyrna*, and J. L. Lucy, Esq., *Gloucester*.—The following papers were read: 'On the Essential Points of Difference between the Larynx of the Negro and that of the White Man,' by Dr. G. D. Gibb.—'On the Weight of the Brain and Capacity of the Cranial Cavity of a Negro,' by Dr. T. B. Peacock.—'On a Skull exhumed in Bedfordshire,' by Dr. T. B. Peacock.—'On the History of Anthropology,' by Mr. T. Bendyshe.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mos. Geographical, 8.—'Basin of River Mahanuddy,' Mr. Temple; 'Visit to Ruined Cities of Cambodia,' Dr. Bastian.
- Ters. Actuarial, 4.—Council.
- Royal Institution, 3.—'Electricity,' Prof. Tyndall.
- Syro-Egyptian, 7½.—'Late Discoveries at Church of Holy Sepulchre,' Rev. J. Mills.
- Anthropological, 8.—'Hadjis and Dervishes of Central Asia,' M. A. Vambéry; 'Physical, &c. Characters of Viti Islanders,' Mr. Fritchard; 'Fetich Worship, Egypt,' Mr. Mackenzie; 'Account of Rude Tribes—supposed Aborigines of S. India,'—'Leaf-Wearing Tribes of India,' Dr. Shortt; 'Anthropology of Linnaeus,' Mr. Bendyshe.
- Engineers, 8.—'Giffard's Injector,' Mr. England.
- Zoological, 8.—'Present State of Knowledge of Saimo,' Dr. Gunther; 'Rare Birds' Eggs,' Mr. Newton.
- Wed. Society of Literature, 4.
- Meteorological, 7.—'Mean Temperature from 50 Years' Observations,' Mr. Glaisher.
- Society of Arts, 8.

- Thurs. Royal Institution, 3.—'Electricity,' Prof. Tyndall.
- Linnean, 8.—'Minute Animals, Intermediate between Sponges and Polycystina,' Capt. Owen; 'Notes on Pueraria,' Mr. Bentham; 'Vegetable Monstruities,' Mr. Dickle.
- Geological, 4.—General.
- Numismatic, 7.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Sculpture,' Prof. Westmacott.
- Chemical, 8.—'New Reaction for preparing Anhydrides and Ethers,' Mr. Broughton; 'Chemistry of Calabar Bean,' Dr. Fraser; 'Action of Silicate and Carbonate of Soda on Cotton Fibre,' Mr. C. Calvert; 'New Electrical Lamp Regulator,' &c., Mr. Higley; 'Oxidation of India Rubber,' Mr. Spiller.
- Royal, 8.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- Fri. Royal Institution, 8.—'Constitution of Fixed Stars and Nebulae,' Mr. Huggins.
- Geological, 1.—Anniversary.
- Philological, 8.—'Relations of Languages of Ancient Gaul and Britain,' Mr. Nash.
- Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'Nervous System,' Prof. Marshall.

FINE ARTS

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THE present is the most interesting display we have seen in Pall Mall for several years; either better materials for an exhibition have been sent to the Gallery this time, or a wiser choice of contributions has been made: in all probability the latter. Sir E. Landseer, faithful to an old friend, has supplied three pictures, one of which is of unusual interest. Mr. Ansell's 'Death of Cæsar,' to which we referred last week, occupies an effective position. Mr. Oakes has a fine landscape styled 'Quietude.' Mr. H. Dawson continues to illustrate London sites with great felicity: it may be in a narrow manner, and with too complete adhesion to one locality. Mr. L. R. Mignot, whose pictures of South American landscape were so cruelly ill-hung at the Royal Academy, has not only received worthy places here, but produced two paintings which reprove former injustice with regard to his original and powerful works.

It can hardly be due to knowledge of his art on the part of the hangers here, that Mr. Mignot has been so fortunate; had such intelligence guided the award and been uninfluenced in other acts, we should not find *The Black Mountain* (No. 212), by Mr. A. Gilbert, a striking specimen of the Bodington and Williams school, in an equal place to that occupied by Mr. Mignot's *Cordillera of Ecuador* (179). How long such cleverly-executed specimens of manufacture are to obtain honourable places in exhibitions depends upon the progress of knowledge among the public.

Among the noteworthy pictures here are *A Man of Straw* (3), by Mr. E. Crawford, a work full of good characterization, but much in need of colour; an eager lawyer offers a bribe to one who may be a false witness in a cause at law; the crier of a court of justice, from his place above, calls the witness; there is a great deal of humour in the way with which the fellow scratches his jaw; the pipe sticking from his pocket, and the straw that clings to his shoes mark the grade of the man.—Mr. C. Rosseter's picture, *The Present* (5), shows that an amount of care has been given to it, of which former works by the same declared themselves so much in want.—*A Spanish Beggar* (39), by Mr. C. S. Lidderdale, is a very good study of a youth, solidly and cleverly painted.—*Baby's Corner* (51), by Mr. F. Wyburd, is neither well painted nor well drawn: see the absurd disproportion between the size of the infant and that of its mother; the head of the latter is too small.—Miss Inglis's *Puritan Girl* (101), a young lady musing, is well composed and expressive in its attitude; it is hung so high that we cannot say more.—*Composing his Love Speech* (109), by Mr. D. W. Wynfield, has a light comedy subject; two lively young ladies are listening to the rehearsed speech of a gentleman who intends to "propose"; there is great vivacity in their attitudes and expressions, and some good colour of the showy sort in their costumes: surely their heads are too small.—*Three Sisters* (118), by Mr. W. B. Richmond, is a picture which—whether we regard its brilliant aspect, or that promise to which we have ere now called attention as exhibited by the artist—demands graver consideration than is due to most of the works before us. Mr. Richmond is, we believe, a very young man; this picture shows him at a critical point in his career. It depends upon himself whether to follow to a good end that which his own ability must tell him

is a noble path, or to join the already too numerous class which contents itself with producing flashy and brilliant pictures, apt enough for the hour, but of no hope for the future. Mr. Richmond does not need to be told that his draperies, vividly coloured as they are, are but shrewdly executed, and that there is something far removed from the Giorgione mode of painting in that rash method of handling with which he is supposed to have aimed at the effect of the great Venetian. Effective as the faces are, they have the look of having been executed in doors, while the background needs far more care and thorough faith in nature than the painter possesses at present. Vivid colouring does not make a good picture by itself, nor does an intense quietude of expression, such as that here displayed, make a pathetic design. This quietude of aspect is the easiest thing in the world to be assumed by a young student; too often such men mistake its fatal facility for profound and poetic thought. With all its obvious display of ability, this picture discourages our expectations of the artist.

Suleiman (174), by Mr. H. W. Phillips, a half-length of an Oriental, is vigorously, though roughly, painted.—*Mersey at the Wicket-Gate* (216), by Mr. R. S. James, is well conceived, carefully treated, and pathetic.—*Going to School* (225), by Mr. J. Clark, is by no means equal to former works by the artist.—Mr. J. Pettie's contributions: 1. *Out of an Engagement* (312),—a musician at home, his children listening to a mournful air,—is one of the most expressive and moving little works we have seen; it is an admirable sketch. 2. *The Wounded Despatch Bearer* (402) is nearly equal to its companion.—*A Border Fair* (319), by Mr. J. Ritchie, has much incident, a good deal of questionable drawing, and displays skill in composition; in some respects it can hardly be called a picture. *The First Night of the Pantomime* (481), by the same, a gallery scene, is much more valuable than the last—a picture rich in character and greatly varied in expression. In such a subject one does not miss *chiaroscuro* or colour so much as in an ill-executed daylight effect; hence this example is less open to challenge than its companion.—With all the want of richness in the colour of their dresses, the children in Mr. C. Lucy's *Babes in the Wood* (358) are full of spirit and expression; it is excellently designed: the babes sleep most naturally at the foot of a gigantic beech, and the wood darkens round them.—*Cherries* (395), by Mr. G. D. Leslie, a mediocrally-treated subject, shows how a youth has climbed a tree to gather fruit. One girl is coquetting with the climber, while another, who is seated at a little distance, is in a state of jealousy; behind is an old, moated manor-house of the fifteenth century. This picture is brightly but flimsily painted.—*Farmyard at Barbison* (412), by M. F. Chaigneau, being painted in the French manner, is very solid and sound in handling, but a little dead in colour.—*The Battle Scar* (516), by Mr. P. R. Morris, a soldier showing a scar to his mother, has considerable expression, and some soundly-painted parts; it lacks richness and harmony of colouring.—*The Beauty of Valencia* (551), by Mr. J. B. Burgess, a single figure, is solidly, if rather coarsely, painted, and has some good points of colour.—*Young Bohemian* (587), by Mr. T. A. F. Graham, shows a dashing "rider girl," in soiled muslin, reposing; it is designed with great spirit and much feeling, and cleverly, if rather showily, painted.

Of the landscapes here, that by Mr. J. E. Niemann, *Hampstead Heath* (601), an irregular avenue of pines, despite its opacity and coarseness of handling, is an effective picture, by far the finest by the artist, who is developing in an unexpected manner.—*Sunset, Guayaquil River*, by Mr. L. R. Mignot (558),—the luridly-lighted underside of a cloud, hanging above a land of streams,—is one of the most striking and original pictures here; its vigour is remarkable.—Less effective, but more valuable, is *The Cordilleras of Ecuador* (179), above referred to, by the same: an interested representation of South American landscape at the height of noon; the mountains, glowing as they are with colour, are absorbed by the heat-mist which fills the air, and through which the sun himself does not penetrate in fullness; nevertheless, all the land-

scape is full of light, while it is ineffably softened by the universal vapour. In this air the palms that watch a river's bank are still, and that river—a burnished shield that is dimmed—slowly wheels along in lazy eddies and through broad reaches from the mountain side. As a whole, this is a grand picture; in its parts there is much subtlety; see the right-hand corner, where the rank tropical vegetation, in all its delicacy, gathers about a still pool.—Contrast with this *The Matterhorn* (490) and *Aiguille Verte* (299), Alpine scenes, by Mr. E. Walton, both powerful pictures in their way, which show the ability of the artist, who, without employing anything like invention, has made subjects of such limited means of expression potent in appearance. Of course, great mountains are grand themes; but they must be treated poetically or prosaically. Although Mr. Walton chose the latter he has made his peaks interesting enough.

Among other valuable landscapes here let us name Mr. Oakes's vigorous picture of a river and mountain country at evening (58), a fine study, but a little crude.—Mr. Williamson's *Mouth of the Scheldt* (15), for its good water painting.—Mr. W. H. Mason's *Red Hill Hollow, Petworth* (27), which, although a little opaque, is fine in tone and strong in handling.—Mr. T. Danby's *Glen Dovey* (74).—Mr. E. Courtauld's *Rival Leaders* (190).—and Mr. J. Danby's *Dysart* (263).—Mr. G. Sant's *On the Downs, Freshwater* (493), is a beautifully handled piece of nature, remarkable for colour and knowledge, and exquisite in tone,—probably the finest landscape here.

Among the minor animal pictures Mr. W. Weekes's *The Genius of the Drama* (221), the dog Toby, a very good little work, should be commended.—Among the most important of the same class is one which shows how much we have lost by the death of W. Duffield, *Swan and Peacock* (387), both birds lying dead, both admirably painted.—Sir E. Landseer's finest picture here has some faults of drawing not apparent in its companions, the former is "*No Hunting till the Weather Breaks*" (189), dogs and a horse in a kennel-yard, all restless through inaction, the snow falling fast.—*An Event in the Forest* (204), a dead stag, a lurking fox and swooping eagle, displays all the facility and marvellous power of execution and admirable composition peculiar to the artist, but less novel invention than we like to see; the third painting here by Sir Edwin is "*Boz*," a wonderful study of a pet dog, admirable in its display of technical power, but a little too sketchy to take rank as a picture.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—A private view of David Roberts's drawings and sketches will be held on Wednesday, next week. One of the pictures of London sites left unfinished by D. Roberts, representing St. Paul's and Ludgate Hill, as seen from Fleet Street, and referred to in our obituary notice of the painter, will appear at the Royal Academy Exhibition of this year.

Mr. Stanfield's contribution to the forthcoming Royal Academy Exhibition will be a large picture of the Bass Rock, in the Firth of Forth, with Tantallon Castle in the distance.

Messrs. Elkington write:—

"22, Regent Street, Feb. 8, 1865.
"Our attention has been called to the remarks made by a Correspondent at Bolton, in your number of January the 28th, as to the condition of the Crompton Statue in that town, and as we had the privilege of manufacturing the statue for Mr. W. Calder Marshall, R.A., and are, therefore, concerned in any imputation on its appearance, we shall be glad if you will allow us to say, through your columns, that we have made a careful examination of the statue, in company with the Mayor of Bolton, the Surveyor to the Corporation, and two gentlemen of the local press, who all confirmed our own statement that the statue itself is as perfect as when it left our works. Mr. Marshall has assured us of his entire satisfaction with our explanation and of his undiminished confidence in the superiority of deposited copper statues, confirmed as it has been by the high authority of Dr. Lyon Playfair, and, indeed, all scientific men must be

aware that pure copper must have much less tendency to oxidize than cast bronze, and that Cellini himself would have used pure copper for statues, had he been aware of the secret which science has given to our day; his efforts to flux pure copper forms an interesting anecdote in his autobiography.
"We are, &c.,
ELKINGTON & CO."

A Correspondent, who is neither a sculptor nor a Member of the Committee appointed to carry out the arrangements for a memorial to Thackeray, begs us to inquire how it has happened that Baron Marochetti, although a member of the Committee in question, has received the commission to execute the memorial, a bust of Thackeray. Our Correspondent declares that there is something very like indecency and strong suspicion of a "job" in a transaction so conducted that a member of a Committee appointed to such an office as this has consented to carry out in his own person the trust reposed in the body of which he is a member. The reasonable custom of this country that no member of a committee or public body shall undertake profitable works for that body is of such obvious utility, that we should be sorry to believe it has been violated in this case.

The building for the new Foreign Office, which occupies the site of the State Paper Office in St. James's Park, is now sufficiently advanced to display its total lack of architectural quality and expression. Nothing can be tamer than the façade, nothing more commonplace and depressing from their monotony than the windows. When we consider the costliness of the smoothed and carefully-faced stone which forms the flat surfaces of the walls—than which it would be hard to name a more expensive means of decoration,—and the want of grace and meaning which appears in the consoles and mouldings of this edifice, it is with shame and regret that we recall the very good design of Soane's State Paper Office, which was destroyed to make room for the structure now nearly finished. As the result of all this cost is not decorative, it was sheer waste to make it. We turn to a parish school in St. Giles's, and find a fine building; to the commercial exchange of a provincial city, as at Liverpool in St. George's Hall, and see that for which no nation need blush; to a second parish school, that by Mr. Wyld, in Endell Street, Long Acre, to churches, to manufacturers' offices, to little railway stations in the suburbs of London, and see signs of reviving Art and love of the beautiful everywhere among them.

The following important additions have been made to the South Kensington Museum:—Seventeen mourning rings, presented by the Rev. R. Brooke Selby, dating from the third quarter of the 18th century, and a betrothal ring of the 17th century.—Greek Earthenware, 3rd and 4th centuries B.C., comprising a calpis, oenochoe, amphora, cylix, scyphos, cantharos, and two rhytons, painted with mythologia, dionysia, and animal subjects, purchased from Signor Castellani.—Chasuble of blue silk, embroidered with branched patterns in gold thread, and compartments containing scriptural subjects in gold and silver thread, English, c. 1290.—Fragment of Linen Embroidery, in frame, with inscription, stating it to be a part of the Bayeux Tapestry, c. 1070.—Painting, fresco, by Andrea del Castagno, representing Diana sleeping, boy and hounds.—Sixteen Silver Seals, English, 18th century, presented by the Rev. R. Brooke Selby.—Door Curtain, Italian, 16th century, pattern of vases and birds in green velvet on yellow and silver.—Pieces of Dresses, and whole Dresses, French and Italian, velvet and silk, 17th and 18th centuries.—Damask, of the same dates.—Chasuble, silk embroidered, pink and green upon white, Italian, 15th century.—Plates, white porcelain, painted, with a central group of shells and a circle of fish and water-plants behind a net of gold, English, the porcelain by Wedgwood & Sons, painted by Mr. J. Latham.—Eighty Tiles, enamelled earthenware, with design of a canal-scene in white and blue, Dutch, c. 1725.—Another, the same.—Seventeen pieces of Greek pottery (pelice, amphora, tazze and covers, cylix, lecythi, bombygios, scyphos, crater, &c.), 3rd and 4th centuries B.C.—Plaque, bronze, with the Combat of the Centaurs

and Lapithæ, by Ant. Pollajuolo; Italian, c. 1470.—Altar-Cross, composed of a piece of rock-crystal, mounted in silver-gilt, standing on a triangular pedestal on shaft of the last, with floral ornament in enamel; the plaques of the cross engraved with the figures of the crucified Saviour and busts of the Evangelists—those of the base with events of the Passion, by V. Vicentino; Italian, c. 1500.—Offices of the Virgin, Paris, 1596; bound in olive morocco, tooled and gilt with devices of Marguerite de Valois.—Four panels of stained glass, from the recent Exhibition of such works at South Kensington, representing "Penelope," Chaucer asleep, the Queens Dido and Cleopatra and "The God of Love," with Alcestis, subjects from 'The Légende de Good Women'; purchased from the exhibitors, Messrs. Morris, Marshall, Falkener & Co., Red Lion Square.—Four encaustic tiles from Edmonton Church, 13th century; Flemish.

The work of painting the roof of Ely Cathedral, carried on by Mr. Gambier Parry from the place where Mr. L'Estrange left it unfinished at his death, is now completed, except so far as regards removal of the scaffolding. This will take place in a few days, and the work be displayed to the public.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

CONCERTS.—With a good deal of concert activity just now, there is less novelty than is desirable. The *Beethoven Concert* took place duly on Saturday night; Madame Alice Mangold being announced as pianist. Herr Pauer will play, and Madame Lemmens-Sherrington sing, there this evening.—At Monday's *Popular Concert* Dussek's 'Invocation Sonata' was repeated—a certain stir having been created on the adoption of this fine work by Madame A. Goddard, as though some particular rarity and enterprise attached itself to whatever she takes in hand. There has been too much of an attempt to put this lady forward as a discoverer—just as if Prof. Moscheles, Dr. Bennett, Mr. Lindsay Sloper, Herr Pauer and Mr. Halle had not each and all done virtually far more in familiarizing the public with the varied library of pianoforte music. The *Sonata* had been frequently played long ere the *Popular Concerts* were thought of. This has nothing to do with Madame A. Goddard's diligence or the amplitude of her repertoire; but it is high time to say that the world is getting tired of the disproportionate commendations of which this clever lady is victim; calculated as they are to create undue preference, and (on the other hand) prejudice among those to whom puffery of every kind is distasteful. No one has more willingly done credit to her extraordinary skill and finish as a mechanist than ourselves. In this respect Madame A. Goddard will always be classed with Madame Pleyel and Madame Dulcken, when the story of the Pianoforte has to be told. But to set her on a pedestal as a high priestess of her art,—as one of the poetical and intellectual few who reflect, combine, originate, and to laud her as intrepid in research, is simply an assumption not based on solid grounds; and since this is systematically done, to the confusion of right and wrong, it may be well to protest that an old and, as a contemporary puts it, a familiar *Sonata*, however cleverly rendered, might be received without such measureless eulogy.—At the *Crystal Palace Concert* on Saturday, she played Dr. Bennett's Concerto in F minor, and a *fantasia* on airs from 'Mireille,' by Mr. Lindsay Sloper.—Mendelssohn's 'First Walpurgis Night' will form a feature in the *Crystal Palace Programme* of to-day. We have heard that there has been a talk of giving there the Walpurgis scenes from M. Gounod's 'Faust,' omitted here in the representation of the opera. We cannot fancy these effective, apart from the splendour and mystery of the stage effects.—'Israel' is to be the *Sacred Harmonic Society's* next oratorio. The performance of 'Elijah' yesterday week was a very fine one. Mr. Montem Smith sang for Mr. Sims Reeves.—We shall speak of Mr. H. Leslie's first concert next week.—Mr. Halle goes on persistently in his good course. The last forgotten work revived by him at Manchester was Ries's 'Don Carlos' overture.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—There have been such things as modest men, not averse to plate, getting up testimonials to themselves, and soliciting contributions from all and sundry. To our minds, ovations of the kind have too often something of a forced and theatrical air, and resemble suspiciously an extorted present, the bare idea of which crimsones every independent cheek with shame. The simple dignity with which Mr. Costa arrested a measure of the kind contemplated by his admirers in London some years since is not forgotten. The other day, the gentlemen connected with the Birmingham Festival agreed that some offering of the kind should be made to the composer of 'Naaman,' in recognition of his having presented that oratorio to the General Hospital. This was communicated to Mr. Costa; but, at his request, the project will not be carried out. It is not our wont to speak of these courtesies (in part for the reason already given—their frequent unreality); but the example just narrated may be put on record, though without falling into the bad, fulsome fashion of eulogy. Disinterestedness has its own reward—within itself.

A new operetta, 'The River Sprite,' by Messrs. G. Linley and Mori, was to be given at Covent Garden, the night before last.

The *Choir* states that M. Gounod is engaged on an opera, professedly for the English stage, for which Mr. C. L. Kenney has undertaken the book. We cannot but fancy that there is confusion in the report.—Mr. Balfe is in London—busy, we are told, over his newest opera. If what we have heard has any foundation, this is a work which the world may well expect with more than common eagerness.

A contemporary announces that Mr. F. Clay has been appointed Chairman to the Civil Service Amateur Musical Society, which, as we mentioned, is in course of formation. To have elected the author of 'Constance' to a position for which tact is indispensable, if anything real is to be accomplished, is a singular choice. It should have been mentioned in our notice of 'Constance' that the music of that operetta is published by Metzler & Co.

Herr Straus is understood to have the intention of remaining in England.—Herr Heermann, a young violinist of promise, will replace Herr Straus at Frankfurt.—Herr Lauterbach, we are informed, intends to pay London another visit.

M. Saint Léon is now taking in hand the *ballad* portion of 'L'Africaine,' which has offered difficulties, Meyerbeer not having composed any music—according to his habit of leaving this portion of his work to the very last moment. "The moment is not yet come," says the *Gazette Musicale* solemnly, "when the possible date of the production of the opera is fixed." We fancy somewhere about Midsummer.

Among the strangers who are in Paris for the concert season is Mdlle. de Try, a violoncellist.—M. Saint Saëns has been playing at one of his Concerts, which seem to be devised with great spirit and variety, a First Pianoforte Trio in F minor, by M. Félicien David.—M. d'Ortigue speaks in the highest terms (not an inch too high) of the violin-playing of the Brothers Holmes, as exhibited in their late concert, which has created a sensation, even in a place so crowded with violinists as the French capital.

Here is something odd from Austria:—"At a late sitting of the Finance Commission at Vienna, the budget of the Imperial Printing-Office being under discussion, one item of expense was stated, as the publication of Dr. Liszt's Mass, which had cost 3,000 florins, and had brought in only 45, "the product of the sale of five copies."—Signor Randegger's 'Rival Beauties,' of the music of which operetta (Addison & Co.) we shall speak more in detail some future day, has been translated into German; and is to be produced at one of the minor theatres at Vienna.

Mdlle. Tietjens seems to be "going in" for the highest tragedy, if rumour is to be trusted. We now hear that Signor Verdi's 'Macbeth' is to be mounted for her. That opera (translated, and, it is said, with alterations from its author's hand) is in

preparation, the French papers say, at the Théâtre Lyrique, with Madame Rey-Balla for heroine.

The name of Mdlle. Singelee, as another brilliant singer of the French school (for the Belgian and French schools of singing are one), is mentioned with high praise in the *Gazette Musicale*.

A friend who writes from Turin is enthusiastic in praise of Madame Vera-Lorini, who has been singing in 'Il Giuramento,' with Mdlle. Barbara Marchisio.—Signor de Capellio Tasca, a tenor, whose name is beginning to figure in the journals, has been engaged for the next season of Italian Opera in St. Petersburg.—Mdlle. Vitali, who sang at Her Majesty's Theatre for a night or two last season, is about to be tried in Paris at the Italian Opera, where trial without success seems to be the order of the time.

'Doña Maria,' a new opera, by M. de Reiset, French Ambassador at Hanover, has been produced at Brunswick,—it is said, successfully.

More talk about the amateurs! The name of Onslow has been brought up by a Correspondent as a rebuke for our want of belief in genuine music being written by persons in easy circumstances—a matter which, we beg to repeat, we never asserted. Onslow does not belong to the class "amateur" as we read the word. He was a thorough master of the science, as is shown by his success in the closest forms of composition—chamber-music; while his Pianoforte Sestett, and his *Sonatas* for four hands, in F minor and E minor, show a success in freer and more figurative writing which few moderns have surpassed. The *Symphony* by him—one of three—played some years ago at a Philharmonic Concert (and well worth repeating)—and the *Overtures* to his three operas, 'L'Alcalde,' 'Le Colporteur,' and 'Le Duc de Guise,' are characteristic specimens in yet another style. So far as we know, Onslow wrote no sacred music. His works are unfairly shelved at the time present, and we are obliged to our querist for giving us an opportunity of calling attention to the fact.

The Correspondent of the *Times* informs us that the censorship of Paris has prohibited the performance of M. Legouvé's play on the story of Agnès de Méranie; in which, it will be recollected, Madame Ristori was to appear—with M. Gounod's new choruses.

A bust of Scribe, by Mdlle. Fanny Davesne, has been placed in the *foyer* of the Opéra Comique.

Among the deaths announced in the French journals of the week is that of Signor Felice Romani—the best librettist in Italy, as all may well say who recollect that it is to him we owe the book of 'Norma.'—M. Farrenc, whose 'Trésor de Pianiste' is one of the most valuable compilations of modern times, is dead.

MISCELLANEA

Watershed.—The question was raised in your columns some time since, whether this was an English or a foreign term. I chanced to-day to meet with the word *shed* used so precisely in the same sense that I thought a record of the fact might be interesting to some of your readers. Talking with my gardener on the merits of a man employed at this season in salving sheep, he said, "No one in these parts can *shed* the wool so well." Suspecting his meaning, but wishing to be sure, I asked him to explain himself; upon which he said that "no one could *part* the wool so well, so as to get down to the skin of the sheep." This shows that the word *shed*, in the sense of dividing, is even yet good Lincolnshire; it may very probably at one time have been good English. Most persons speaking of wool *shed* would understand by the expression wool parted so completely that it had fallen away from the animal; while a *shed* is that which parts us from the rain or storm.

D. S. MATTHEW.

The Parsonage, Wainfleet St. Mary, Feb. 8.

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